CORRESPONDENCE OF NAPOLEON FIRST. YEAR 1812.

18878. - ALEXANDER I, EMPEROR OF RUSSIA, SAINT PETERSBURG.

Vilna, July 1st, 1812.

Brother, I have received your Majesty's letter. The war that divided our states ended with the treaty of Tilsit. I had been at the Niemen Conference with the resolution not to make peace that I had not obtained all the benefits that circumstances promised me. I had therefore refused to see the King of Prussia. Your Majesty says to me: I will be your second against England. This word of your majesty changed everything; the treaty of Tilsit was the corollary of it. Since then, your Majesty desired that modifications be made to this treaty: she wished to keep Moldavia and Wallachia, and to bring her limits to the Danube. She resorted to negotiations. This important modification of the treaty of Tilsit, so advantageous to your Majesty, was the result of the Erfurt Convention. It appears that about the middle of 1810 Your Majesty desired further modifications to the Treaty of Tilsit. She had two ways to get there, negotiation or war. The negotiation had succeeded him at Erfurt: why, this time, did she take a different course? She made considerable armaments, declined the course of negotiations, and appeared to want to obtain modifications to the treaty of Tilsit only by the protection of her numerous armies. The relations established between the two powers, after so many events and bloodshed, were broken; the war became imminent. I also had recourse to arms, but six months after your Majesty had taken this step. I did not raise a battalion, I did not draw a million of my treasure for the extraordinary war, that I did not make known it to[1]

Your Majesty and his ambassadors. I did not miss an opportunity to explain myself. Your Majesty has made a protest in front of all Europe that the powers are in the habit of doing only at the moment of fighting, and when they have no hope of the negotiations, I have not answered them. Your Majesty, the first, has assembled his armies and threatened my frontiers. Your Majesty, the first, left for his headquarters. Your Majesty, after constantly refusing to explain for eighteen months, has at last given me a summons from his minister to evacuate Prussia as a precondition for any explanation. A few days later, this minister applied for his passports and repeated this request three times. From that moment, I was at war with Your Majesty. I wished, however, to maintain the hope that Prince Kurakin had misunderstood his instructions, and that he was not authorized to this summation *sine qua non* to hear nothing of Prussia being evacuated, which of course was to place between war and dishonor-an unseemly language on the part of Russia, which neither past events nor the respective forces of the two States should allow me to hold, and which was opposed to the character of your Majesty, to the esteem she has sometimes shown me, and finally to the memory that she can not have lost that, in the most critical circumstances, I have honored her and her nation enough to offer her nothing could be the slightest contrary to delicacy and honor. I therefore instructed Count Lauriston to go to your Majesty and his Minister of Foreign Affairs, to explain all these circumstances, and to see whether there would be no means of reconciling the opening of a Negotiation, considering as irrelevant the arrogant and misplaced summons of Prince Kurakin. A few days later, I learned that the court of Berlin had been informed of this step of Prince Kurakin, and that he himself was much surprised by such extraordinary language. I was not slow to learn that in Petersburg, too, this step was known, and that sensible people disapproved of it; finally the English newspapers informed me that the English knew it. Prince Kouraki had therefore only followed his instructions literally. However, I still wished to preserve hope, and awaited the answer of Count Lauristou, when I received at Gumbinnen the secretary of legation Prévost, who informed me that, against the rights of the people, against the duties of the sovereigns in like manner circumstances, regardless of what your Majesty owed to me and to herself, not only had he refused to see Count Lauriston, but even, something without[2]

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for example, that the forgetfulness had been carried to the point that the minister too had refused to hear and confer with him, although he had made known the importance of his communications and the letter of his orders. I realized then that fate was cast out, that this invisible Providence, whose rights and empire I recognize, had decided this affair, like so many others. I walked on the Niemen with the intimate feeling of having done everything to spare humanity these new misfortunes, and to reconcile everything with my honor, that of my people, and the sanctity of treaties.

Here, sire, the account of my conduct. Your Majesty may say many things, but he will say to himself that he has for eighteen months refused to explain himself in any way; that he has since declared that he would hear nothing before I had evacuated the territory of my allies; that by this he wished to deprive Prussia of the independence which he seemed to wish to guarantee him, while at the same time he pointed to the Forks Caudines. I pity the wickedness of those who have been able to give such advice to your Majesty. Be that as it may, never has Russia been able to hold this language with France; it is at most that which the Empress Catherine could hold at the last of the kings of Poland.

War is declared between us. God himself can not do that which has not been. But my ear will always be open to peace negotiations; and when your majesty seriously wishes to detach itself from the influence of the men who are enemies of its family, its glory, and that of its empire, it will always find in me the same sentiments and true friendship. One day will come when Your Majesty will confess that if, as of the end of 1810, it had not changed, that if, wanting modifications to the treaty of Tilsit, he had resorted to fair negotiations, which is not change, he would have had one of the most beautiful reigns of Russia. As a result of brilliant and repeated disasters, it had by its wisdom and policy cured all the wounds of the state, united to its empire of immense provinces, Finland and the mouths of the Danube. But also I would have won a lot: the affairs of Spain would have been completed in 1811, and probably peace with England would be concluded at this moment. Your Majesty has lacked perseverance, confidence, and, let me tell you, sincerity; he spoiled her whole future. Before passing the Niemen, I would have sent an aide-de-camp to your Majesty, according to the use I have followed in the preceding campaigns, if the persons who are leading the war with her and who appear to me, in spite of the lessons from experience, so eager to do it,[3]

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had not shown much discontent with the Comte de Narbonne's mission, and if I had not had to regard as the result of their influence the non-admission of my ambassador. It seemed to me unworthy of me to be able to suspect that under the pretext of proceeding, by sending someone to your Majesty, I could have any other object. If your Majesty wishes to end the war, you will find me disposed to it. If your Majesty is determined to continue it and wants to establish a cartel on the most liberal bases, such as to consider men to hospitals as non-prisoners, so that on both sides we do not have to urge evacuations, which leads to the loss of good of the world; such as the dismissal, every two weeks, of prisoners on both sides, taking on a role of exchange, rank by grade, and all other stipulations which the use of war between civilized peoples has been able to admit.

Your Majesty will find me ready for anything. If even your Majesty wishes to allow certain direct communications to be established, notwithstanding the hostilities, the principle as well as the formalities would also be regulated in this cartel. It remains for me to finish by begging Your Majesty to believe that, while complaining of the direction he has given to her policy, which so painfully affects our lives and our nations, the particular sentiments I feel for him. Nevertheless, it is safe from events, and if fortune should further favor my arms, it will find me, as at Tilsit and Erfurt, full of friendship and esteem for its beautiful and great qualities, and wanting to prove it to him.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of His Majesty the Emperor of Russia.

18879. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN OCHMIIINA.

Vilna, July 1st, 1812, two o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, there is no doubt today that Bagration has flown from Brzesc on Grodno, and from Grodno along Vilna, six leagues distant, to reach Sventsiany. I organized three heavy columns to continue. All three will be under your command when you can communicate. The right column is commanded by General Grouchy and composed of the Bordesoulle Brigade, the Dessaix Infantry Division and the Castex Light Cavalry Brigade. The second column is under your orders. You have the Pajol Brigade, the Compans Division, the Cuirassier Division of[4]

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Valencia and the Lancers of the Guard. The third column will lead by Mikhalichki; it is composed of the Morand division, two brigades of the Bruyere division, and the Saint-Germain division. General Nansouty commands this column. I have placed in reserve the Duke of Treviso to meet all the roads, with a division of infantry and cavalry, ready to go everywhere. It is up to you to direct these three columns as soon as you can communicate; and it is up to the commanders of these columns to direct themselves so as to do the greatest possible harm to the enemy, when you can not communicate with them. It is probable that General Nansouty will overflow or fall on the flank of the Vanguard, you on the center, and General Grouchy on the rear guard. If the enemy were wise, and if he had all in his command, he would go to Minsk, to take from there the road of Disna. The three columns must act in an efficient manner.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl,

18880. - TO MARECHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GRANDE ARMY IN OCHMIANA.

Vilna, July 1st, 1812, three o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, I send you the contribution of General Bordesoulle. I decided to lead the Dessaix division on Edlina to support General Bordesonlle. It seems that the Cossacks have already passed to Pavlovo el Tourgheli. I think it would be proper if you fought to support Morand's division.

NAPOLEON,

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl,

18881. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GRANDE ARMY IN OCHMIANA.

Vilna, July 1st, 1812.

Cousin, I send you a copy of a letter from General Morand. I order him to take a position, with his division and the 100 light cavalry he has with him, at the Mikhalichki Bridge, to seize the stores and hold a military position. I informed him that General Nansouty and two brigades of Bruyere's division were going to the same post to direct him. Everything is moving to form the three columns. I will send you the[5]

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General Grouchy's division of dragoons, which I placed at the junction of the roads, as soon as I received the first news. If I do not have it at noon, I will direct it on you, in order to put you in a position to walk on Molodechnna.

I saw with regret that you left for Ochmiana, you had to wait for the Colbert brigade. If you walk so lightly, you will fall into the hands of the Cossacks and even the regular enemy cavalry, as the columns are scattered, having completely lost the Tramontana.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl,

18882. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 1st, 1812.

Cousin, I receive the letter from the governor of Konigsberg of June 23rd. Answer to him that I authorize him to raze on the spot all the lines and redoubts of the camp of Lochstœdt which are two leagues from Pillau. As for the works of the Nebrung Point, I will inform him of my intentions. Write to him that it is useless to strengthen the garrison of Pillau; that it will be time, when this point is threatened, to send troops there.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18883. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 1st, 1812

Send to the meeting of the viceroy a well-assembled and very active officer. Tell the Viceroy that Bagration leads to Vilna, seeming to be on the Dvina, one of his divisions is at Boly-Soletchniki, another opposite Ochmiana; that it is important for him to approach without delay his light cavalry and all he can of his infantry, to arrive as soon as possible, in order to be able to act according to the circumstances.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[6]

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18884. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM.
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 2, 1812,

Cousin, get a staff officer to follow the construction of the ovens. For five days we have been in Vilna, they should already be built, and yet they are not yet started. The cause is in the absence of horses to transport the bricks. However the Joinville officer has horses from the service of the little headquarters; the 10th Battalion of Crews has arrived, and finally there is a large number of draft horses attached to the headquarters and staff officers, to begin with those of my house. It was therefore fitting that, for an operation as important as the construction of the furnaces, chore horses should be ordered. But the state is organized in such a way that nothing is planned.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18885. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 2, 1812.

Cousin, give orders that, during the day, staff officers and gendarmes should be appointed, with men of drudgery taken either from the troop or from the peasants, to have all the horses, corpses, buried, filth from butcheries, both in the city of Vilna and in a circumference of two leagues in radius. Assign each one his district. They will not stop this work from being completed.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

18886. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 2, 1812.

Cousin, send back this aide-de-camp of the viceroy, and let the viceroy know that, having no news, but warned of the general movement, it is ridiculous that he remained motionless at Piloni; that, since he had knowledge of the Cossacks on the side of Stoklichek, he could send his light cavalry forward to illuminate[7]

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the country, have news and approach Vilna; that the news which General Roguet has given him, that 30 to 40,000 Russians are on the left, has no common sense; that General Boguet claims that he told him on his right; that then it was the hussars who were seen on the side of Stoklichek; that all these delays upset the Emperor; that it follows that the most beautiful occasions occur without profiting from them, and that all the fatigues of the body become thereby a complete waste.

Write to General Roguet that I am surprised to see that he is still in Jijmory, that he must have lost his head for not having continued his journey on Vilna; that if his artillery had experienced delays he could leave a guard of 100 to 150 men; that he gave the Viceroy the news that 30 to 40,000 Russians were on his left; that this absurd news has influenced the Viceroy's operations. Ask him why he has advised to give this news, and order him to join immediately.

Send the Viceroy, whom I informed him on the 28th, that he must go to the right; that he pushes strong cavalry parties on Olitta to hear news of everything that is going on; that he approaches Vilna with the 4th corps, and that he has on his right, that is to say between the Niemen and Vilna, the 6th corps, which will push parties on Meretch and Olkeniki, so that his union should be with the King of Westphalia.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18887. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 2, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the Duke of Taranto to bring as soon as he can his headquarters to Poneveje. He will concentrate the 7th Division, the greater part of the Prussian cavalry, and at least half of the infantry, all the field artillery.

From Poneveje he will correspond with the Duke of Reggio, who is at Vilkomir, and with the headquarters by Vilkomir and Kovno. He will have Chavli occupied by posts, if he thinks fit. The Prussians remained on the left, he will gather them in Memel and will work on the fortifications of this place. Write him again to send Prussian detachments to bring our supplies.

Send your dispatch to the Duke of Taranto, by duplicate, by the[8]

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Duke of Reggio by Vilkomir and Kovno. This marshal must be at Rossieny.

NAPOLEON,

P. S. It will be necessary to take steps to collect 2,000 wagons from Memel to Mitau and 2,000 from Tilsit to Chavli, for the transport of the headquarters crew from Memel to Riga and from Tilsit to Riga.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18888. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 2, 1812.

My Cousin, instruct a general officer of your staff to deal only with the organization of the communication routes from Wilkowyszki to Kovno and from Kovno to Vilna. From Wilkowyszki to Kovno it takes two commanders and two small garrisons of 25 men with one or two gendarmes; they will protect the post office, police and regularly send news of what is happening; they will have the inhabitants restore the degraded roads, fill the embankments, repair and maintain the bridges, From Kovno to Vilna, it is necessary to establish four commanders and four garrisons of 25 men, at Iloumchichki, Jijmory, Yevé, Rykonty; it will be a company and 5 or 6 gendarmes. Each post must be joined with 3 or 4 cavalry men. The commanders will regularly make known what will happen, will mend the roads and bridges, bury the horses and corpses, which in the season we are can cause diseases. It is also necessary to have two or three chiefs of battalion or majors following the general staff, who will act as inspectors of the roads; one will be charged with the road from Wilkowyszki to Kovno, and the other from Kovno to Vilna; they will visit their district twice a week, and take care of the maintenance of the roads, their police, the repairs of the bridges, etc., while the headquarters remain in Vilna. When the Headquarters goes forward, the most backward inspector will move on the new direction forward. The stations must first be placed half-a-day on the forty-five hundred and fifty leagues behind Vilna; they will then be reduced to milestone days when the country is organized. It is important to appoint these inspectors on the spot and to organize[9]

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Wilkowyszki roads in Vilna and repair bridges and roads on the spot.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war

18889. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 2, 1812, six o'clock in the evening,

My Cousin, order General Lahoussaye to leave with his division today to make a day, and to go on Roudniki. He will send patrols on the Olkeniki, Olitta, and Eichichki roads, Grodno Road. He will take all the information and report directly to you. He will also report to General Grouchy, with whom he will be bound, and who is at Boly-Soletchniki.

Write to General Grouchy, who is at Boly-Soletchniki, to inform you of what regiment and division the prisoners are, and where they have been for a fortnight.

According to the original, not signed, Deposit of the war,

18890. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDANT THE 1st CORPS OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN OCHMIANA.

Vilna, July 2, 1812,

Cousin, I send you a letter from General Nansouly. You will see that indeed Ochmiana's enemy corps is taking the route of which I have sent you the note. General Nansouty arrived at Mikhalichki yesterday evening; he will therefore be able to fall on the flanks of this column. It appears that this corps is the 6th, commanded by General Doktourof, composed of two divisions of infantry and a division of cavalry, which makes from 15 to 16,000 men. I do not see any news from Bagration yet.

NAPOLEON,

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

18891. - TO MAHÉCHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDANT THE 1st CORPS OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN OCHMIANA,

Vilna, July 2, 1812,

My Cousin, I send you the roll sheet of the right wing of the 6th enemy corps, which was found in the papers you have me[10]

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sent. This seemed to me important enough to be passed on to you. General Grouchy tells me that the body you had before you at Boly-Solelchniki ended up being demoted, without being able to know in which direction; that he sets off to follow the enemy's trail.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original comm. by Mme the Marechal Princess of Eckmühl.

18892. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, 3 July 1812,

Cousin, give orders to General Chasseloup to have thirty or forty boats taken on the Viliya, to have some sailors of the Guard placed there as soon as they arrive, and some sailors of the country; to have them regimented and send them five by five to Rovno to take charge of them; tell him that it is necessary that the first five boats leave tomorrow, that he should charge General Kirgener with these details; let him give him the money he will need, and the steward will repay. Charge General Chasseloup to begin work on the Viliya Bridge tomorrow; that he gives the conduct of these works to the architect of the city; that it even advance to him the funds that can be necessary, except to the city in Cairo later repayment; that, finally, he charges General Kirgener with the supervision of this construction, which must be done very quickly.

Napoleon.

From the original. Deposit of the United States.

18893. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 3, 1812,

My Cousin, there were still 4,000 rations of bread belonging to the young Guard this morning, which must be given to him, 12,000 reserved for the Army of Italy, which will be delivered to him as soon as he sends his carriages, and 27,000. Of these 27,000, we will give 8,000 to the army of Italy, which will bring to 20,000 the quantity destined for it. There will remain 19,000, of which 4,000 will be used for the consumption of the headquarters, the engineers and the artillery, and 15,000 will be issued to the Guard as first-to-count over four days of bread, which must be in advance. The Guard Conservatory will make a report to publicize[11]

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the number of rations that the old and the young Guard consume, and what is needed to ensure the distributions of 4, 5, 6, and 7, as well as the means of attaining this result. It will take several days to complete the four-day advance of bread, since one has to provide daily service. My goal is to get to the point that the Guard always has four days of food, It should organize now the handling, so as to have 50,000 rations per twenty-four hours, namely: 30,000 handling Saint-Raphael 12,000 to that of Saint Casimir and 8 or 10,000 in bourgeois and Jewish ovens.

I ordered to establish three new operations of twelve ovens; the first twelve will be finished within a few days. Then they can be put at the disposal of the Guard and no longer do anything in the bourgeois ovens, which would be left at the disposal of the inhabitants. This new handling of twelve furnaces would bring the means of manufacture to 60,000 rations a day, and when the other two are finished, it will be possible to make up to 100,000 rations. Then all that can be made in addition to consumption must be biscuit bread, The 100,000 rations to be made per day require l 200 quintals of flour. The mills must give 1,000. We will take the flours belonging to the corps that come here, and we will give the corps the equivalent of bread, because we can not hide that the flour does not feed the soldier. The Guard must have many convoys of flours to arrive; they will be unloaded here, so that when the Guard leaves, it can leave with four rations on her back and all their wagons laden with biscuit bread.

Reiterate the order that all army cars that are here empty go and take up flour in Kovno. There must have arrived 3,000 quintals on July 1st.

Order the commander of Kovno to ship the flours on the Viliya as they arrive, and write to the intendant general to take measures to ensure the navigation of the Viliya,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18894. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 3, 1812.

Cousin, write to the King of Naples that it appears that the enemy does not want to hold seriously at Sventsiuny; I do not see any difficulty[12]

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to what he pushes on this point; that as soon as he arrives I wish him to build ovens.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original, Deposit of the war.

18895. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN OCHMIANA,

Vilna, July 3, 1812.

Cousin, you will find herewith the report of the Polish Commissioner for Forage; it does not comply with your information. You will also find attached the letter of General Nansouty; it seems to confirm the Commissioner's reports. You will see that he arrived at Mikhalichki. You will also find a copy of General Grouchy's letter; he walks on Dzevcnichki: so here you are bound together. The Guard is reunited in Vilna. The Viceroy's body has arrived. So you must have no fear of discovering Vilna. You can attract Generals Grouchy and Dessaix to you. In the present position General Nansoufy alone can do some harm to Doktourof. General Grouchy's reports are vague; it is not very clear to what enemy corps it is dealing; it is necessary that you clear up all this. Here is some positive information. On the 30th, the King of Westphalia entered Grodno; he found Platof there with the whole corps of the Cossacks, who, of course, fled. On the 30th, Bagration was at Mosty and threatened to attack; but it is more likely that he will have retired. In this case, it can be today 3 in Lida; he could be in Volojine on the 5th or the 6th. So you could meet with General Grouchysur Volojine. The king of Westphalia must follow Bagration; he must go to Minsk. I have no news that we have entered Sventsiany. Marshal Ney is at Maliaty; the Duke of Reggio at Avanta. General Grouchy will probably have news of the direction of the enemy; do that right. If the information of the King of Westphalia is true, you will find yourself warned about the movements of the enemy. So try to be reunited with General Grouchy and have as many infantry and cavalry as you can. When I know what you want to do, I will decide to send you the Claparède division.

If you can do some cooking in Ochmiana and organize food there, it might be useful.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.[13]

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18896. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN OCHMIANA,

Vilna, July 4th, 1812, six o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, I receive your letter from the 3rd to two o'clock in the afternoon.

I send the division Claparède, composed of the three regiments of the Vistula, to Ochmiana. It leaves this morning; he will be there for you. I judged that this reinforcement was necessary in these circumstances. The Viceroy's head finally arrives at Vilna; the Lahoussaye dragon division is at Roudniki; as he is under the orders of General Grouchy, he can make it support him.

I think I have told you that the King of Westphalia entered Grodno on the 30th, and that Bagration was at Mosty, busy passing the Niemen.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

18897. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGHAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 4, 1812.

My Cousin, the Marshal Duke of Castiglione will take command of the 11th Corps of the Grand Army. This corps will be composed in the following manner: of the 2nd reserve division, commanded by General Heudelet, who will take the number of the 1st division of the 11th corps, of the 3rd division of the reserve, which will be the 2nd of the 11th corps ; of the 4th division of the reserve, which will be the 3rd of the 11th corps, and of the Neapolitan division. You will present the detailed and definitive organization of these divisions, and you will propose to give them numbers following the other divisions of the army.

The Duke of Castiglione will have under his command the garrisons of Swedish Pomerania, Berlin and the three forts of the Oder. He will keep the five 6th battalions of the 46th, 37th, 56th, 19th and 93rd until further notice. It is necessary that the Duke of Castiglione be returned before July 25 to Berlin. You will order the Duke of Belluno that as soon as the Duke of Castiglione has arrived he will give him the command; he will give him his instructions, all the information that may be useful, and leave to take his headquarters to Marienburg. In this in fact, the division of General Partouneaux will begin, immediately after the reception of the present order, and proceed to Marienburg. She will walk on two columns. The division of General Lagrange, who is the first of the reserve, will be[14]

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on Konigsberg, walking on two columns, by Kustrin and Schwedt. The division of General Girard will leave immediately after the division Partouneaux and will go to Marienburg. The Daendels division has already returned to Danzig. Thus the four divisions of the Duke de Bellune's corps will be united at Marienburg, Danzig, and Konigsberg, and may be carried wherever the circumstances may require. It is necessary that these troops be returned to the Vistula at the end of July.

You will order the Duke of Bellune to summon the 13th provisional demi-brigade, which is at Erfurt, and all that belongs to the 3rd and 4th divisions of the reserve, to place them according to the orders I have given, and to keep the five battalions until further notice, all of which will secure the garrisons of Stettin, Küstrin, Glogau, and Swedish Pomerania, and form a reserve corps at Berlin, but take care that what belongs to the 4th division of the reserve speaks of Mainz, Wesel and Strasbourg only well babbled, well equipped and completed at least 800 men per battalion.

The Duke of Bell will receive, before his arrival at Marienburg, instructions as to what he has to do; but he will have general instruction to run to the aid of Stettin, Danzig, and Konigsberg, according to the circumstances which will arise.

Order General Rapp and General Latour to form march battalions of the men available from the 2nd corps to the Marienburg depot, from the 1st corps to the Danzig depot and from the 3rd and 4th corps to the Thorn depot, and to direct them to Konigsberg.. They will be careful to send only valid men who are well dressed and well equipped.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original. Deposit of the war.

18898. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 4, 1812.

Cousin, it is necessary that you give orders so that no isolated man leaves from Kovno. Recommend that they be gathered there and that they come in force, well organized and having with them four days of bread, since they must not find food from Kovno to Vilna. I see with great pleasure that finally the convoys' heads are ready to arrive by the Niemen, and that at this moment[15]

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7 to 8,000 quintals of flour must be in Kovno. Send orders to water Vilna all that will be possible, using the boats that will be available.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18899. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 4th, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Elchingen that the situation of his corps d'armee seems to me very alarming from the point of view of the artillery. It is necessary that he does not take one step further than his artillery. has joined. Without artillery his corps would be very compromised. He must therefore rally his troops, build ovens, collect livelihoods and organize the police. Tell him to send cavalry detachments, commanded by staff officers, to join the stragglers; There are many who commit crimes, and who would eventually be caught by the Cossacks. I wish him to make known to me the state of the situation of his corps in terms of artillery, engineers, number of men, provisions, & c.

You will write the same thing to the Duke of Reggio, asking him the same state of the situation of his corps.

Also write to the King of Naples that my intention is that the infantry rests at Sventsiany; that he build furnaces there; that he organizes the service of subsistence and a good police. The cavalry also needs rest. You will let him know that I have ordered the same thing to the dukes of Elchingen and Reggio,

You will write to the Duke of Taranto that I have given him a long order to go to Poneveje or Chavli; the main aim is to keep the enemy in awe so that he does not come to disturb the Niemen, and to seem to threaten Mitau.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18900. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 4th, 1812.

Cousin, one road can not suffice for an army like this; besides, I want to let the road of Wilkowyszki [16]

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in Kovno, to give time to reorganize and repair it. Present me a plan to establish a road by Konigsberg, Lahiau, Tilsit, following the left bank of the Niemen. By this means it will be easy to give the horses exactly oats and the troops the bread. Let me know the places where you can go shopping. The Wilkowyszki road being so relieved, order that the shops at Wilkowyszki be formed, and that this road be repaired and put in good condition.

My intention is to have a second road from Vilna to Preny or Olitta, and from there to Hastenburg and Wilkowyszki; have this roll recognized by Olitta, and present me a project of organization; have the roads of Preny and Bulwierz yszki recognized, my intension being to throw two permanent bridges at Olitta and Preny, in the nearest point of Vilna to the river, from there Fairo there a bridgehead and to have a big store. Send General Guilleminot with a Geographical Engineer and a Senior Engineer Officer to recognize these roads, the nearest point to the Niellen, the place where bridges are to be dug, and the fortification works to be made there.

Finally the road from Vilna to Grodno and from there to Warsaw is naturally the third road. Order the engineer general to recognize Grodno, my intention being to have two bridges there and to establish a bridgehead, if this point is susceptible of fortification. Order General Chasseloup to send an engineer officer there. At present the army has passed, two stores must be organized at Jijmory and Vevé, and at each of these two places must be handled at least three days. While waiting for these establishments to be made, four days of food will be taken in Kovno to come to Vilna, and four days of food in Vilna to go to Kovno. It is essential to have these two operations at Jijmory and Vevé as soon as possible, and a sufficient supply to distribute 6,000 rations per day.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18901. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 4th, 1812.

Cousin, send before midnight a staff officer to go to the King of Westphalia and make him know the intendants[17]

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and directors I appointed. Charge this officer to take information from the corps of Bagraiion, on the movements of the Russians, on the position of the King of Westphalia, and to return without delay to inform us of it.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18902. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LA RIBOISIERE,
COMMANDING THE ARTILLERY OF THE GRANDE ARMY IN VILNA;

Vilna, 4th, July, 1812.

General Comte la Riboisière, order that the 30,000 rifles destined to arm the insurrection be directed by Broruberg and the Vistula over Vilna. Also bring the 6,000 rifles which are at Pillau, with the sabers and pistols which are there.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by M, the Count de la Riboisière.

18903, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GRANDE ARMY IN NOVOI-TROKI.

Vilna, July 4th, 1812.

My Son, leak your patrols light cavalry as far as you can. Runners can go to Meretch and Orany; there are no more enemies there. They require the locals to restore the bridge and pick up the Russian stragglers. We are in direct communication with King I Westphalia in Grodno.

Send me by, the return of my commanding officer the position of your divisions tonight. Come see me in Vilna.

In general, you do not write enough, and you do not do what is necessary, when you are isolated, to link with headquarters and to have promptly news and orders.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18904, - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDIINT THE 1st CORPS OF THE GRANDE ARMY, A VOLOJINE.

Vilna, July 5, 1812, at six o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, I ordered General Laboussaye to go to Boly - Soletchniki to support Grouchy's right, and to all[18]

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the light cavalry of the vice-ruler also surrender from Troki on Boly-Soletchuiki to cover your right. They write to me from Grodno that Bagration is believed to have left Slonime on the 1st. General Nansouty was yesterday in Kobvlnik. Doktourof had just passed. The King of Naples was at Sventsiany. The cavalry of the King of Westphalia had set out on Lida.

NAPOLEON

P. S. I have told you that the division Claparède left yesterday evening for Ochmiana to support you.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

18905. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM;
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 5, 1812.

Cousin, write to the King of Westphalia that I only receive his dispatch of the 3d of July, while I received yesterday his letters of the 4th. You will inform him that I am extremely displeased that he not put all his light troops under the orders of Prince Poniatowski to the bag of Bagration, to harass his corps and stop his march; that on the 30th, at Grodno, he was to immediately attack the enemy, and pursue him vigorously. You will tell him that it is impossible to maneuver worse than he did; that General Reynier and even the 8th Corps were useless to this; that it was necessary to make Prince Poniatowski march with all that he had available to follow the enemy; that, for having removed himself from all the rules and his instructions, he makes Bagration have all the time to retire, and he does so at his ease; that if Bagration left Volkovisk 30, he can arrive on the 7th in Minsk, and what does it matter then that the King is there by himself on the 10th, since Bagration will have gained four days of walking on him? Tell him that if Prince Poniatowski had only one division, it must be sent; but that everything leads one to think that he could send all this corps forward; he could not have been compromised, since Bagration has no time to fight or maneuver, and he is only trying to gain ground, knowing that he is cut off by the maneuvers I am doing. ; that the Prince of Eckmühl is, today, 5 with a part of his corp in front of Volojine, but will not be strong enough to stop Bagration, since he is not embarrassed by anything. Send the King to order a Prince Poniatowski to leave at once, with his[19]

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cavalry and all that he will have available to fight Bagration. You will tell him that all the fruit of my maneuvers and the most beautiful opportunity which presented itself to the war escaped by this singular forgetfulness of the first notions of war.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18906. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDNT THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, VOLOJINE.

Vilna, July 5, 1812, seven o'clock in the evening.

Cousin, I send you a copy of a letter I receive from the King of Westphalia.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame the Marshal Princess Eckmuhl.

18907. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDNT THE 1st BODY OF THE GREAT ARMY, VOLOJINE.

Vilna, July 6, 1812, eleven o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, I receive your letter of the 5th afternoon. It is probable

LETTER FROM THE KING OF WESTPHALIA TO THE MAJOR GENERAL.

My Cousin, I only receive your letters of the 29th and 30th at once. This is the first news I have since Kovno.

Prince Bagration is by no means at Ochmiana. He was only two divisions of infantry that he had detached on the 27th to go to Vilna, where they had to strengthen the corps that was there.

I am certain that Prince Bagration left Volkovisk with five infantry and two cavalry divisions on the 30th, marching on Slonime and Minsk.

The hetman Platof, who evacuated Grodno before my light cavalry, was on Vilna when he told Lida that the Emperor was in that first city. He then turned to Slonime by Belitzky, seeking to join Prince Bagration.

I order General Reynie to go to Slonime and from there to Nesvije.

I engaged Prince Schwarzenberg, as he has no more enemies before him, to march on Bialystok.

I will be with my three other army corps in Novogroudok on the 9th or the 10th.

We lose a lot of horses, we lack transportation; but as we all bear the same privations, we can not complain.

JEROME NAPOLEON.

1) At headquarters, in Groduo, midnight. July 3, 1812.[20]

that you will meet the head of Bagration's corps in Minsk. I wish you to have with you the Claparede division and the Grouchy division. All the light cavalry of the viceroy is tonight at Boly-Solchnikiki. General Lahoussave left yesterday for Soubotniki to join you; have him come to you. The Viceroy's light cavalry will be on your right to support him, and that of the Bavarians is on Soletchniki. The Viceroy is on Soletchniki and Ochmiana, so he will be in a position to support you. I ordered the king of Westphalia to order Bagration with the sword in his loins. It seems constant that Bagration only left Volkovisk on the 30th. I do not think that 50th Vanguard can arrive before the 8th of Minsk, and that his corps be assembled there before the 10th or the 11th. With the Claparede division, the Compans division and the Dessaix division, you will have more infantry that he, and the Valence division, your two light brigades, the Colbert brigade, the Lahoussaye division, and the Grouchy division, will give you much more cavalry. Finally, it is not probable that he wants to walk on the corps, since he will be pursued at the tail; and if he wishes, I hope that the Viceroy will be able to support you. The Morand division was at Postavy yesterday with General Nansouty. It must be left there, because it is there in the system of the king of Naples, which is near Vidzy, and that it could go on Gloubokoie, if there was something to do. It is likely that Bagration will take another route than Minsk when he knows you are there. I hope to receive in a few hours letters from Grodno, who will bring me news and precise information on his progress. I will not waste time on communicating with you.

Be careful that your cavalry posts are placed all the way, so that the communications are fast. I order all your headquarters to set out to join you in Minsk.

It is said that in Pinsk there are many horses; if you could get us two or three thousand, that would be very useful.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original comm. by Madame the Marechal Princess d'Eckmilhl.

18908. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 6, 1812.

My Cousin, order that everything that belongs to the neighborhood[21]

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General of Prince Eckmühl, administration, bakers, builders of ovens, genius, artillery, etc., leave before noon to reach Minsk, passing through Ochmiana. You will recommend him to march with order and to inquire what is going on, because the road might be crossed by enemy columns which, on this side, would seek to reach the Dvina.

Write to General Nansouty, who is at Postavy, to bind himself with the King of Naples, whose outposts were yesterday at Davghelichki, in order to march in concert on Vidzy; that, if, however, the King of Naples had entered Vidzy without him, it would be good if he remained eight leagues to the right of Vidzy, so as to be able to go to Gloubokoye and to be able, as soon as he could will be certain that the King does not need him, intercept the road of Disna.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18909. - NOTE FOR THE PRINCE MAJOR GENERAL.

Vilna, July 6, 1812,

1st Do not let any isolated man go away until I have seen it and ordered it.

2nd To give in the night four days of bread (to the half-ration) to all that leaves the 1st corps.

3rd Of the remaining 7,000 rations, give to the Army of Italy the 1,700 rations which it misses.

4th To give to the Army of Italy the 20,000 rations of the Guard. The Guard will be served with what we will do in the night and in the morning of tomorrow.

5th Give the Army of Italy the 80 quintals of rice that we have here.

6th The Berlin Authorizing Officer must be recalled from Berlin and the Sartelon Authorizing Officer from Thorn.

From unsigned original, War Repository.

18910. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 6, 1812,

Cousin, write to the King of Naples that General Morand and General Nansouty were at Postavy yesterday, where they must remain in position; that the Duke of Elchingen has been ordered to go to Taouroghiny and be at his disposal, and that there may be an interest in occupying[22]

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Vidzy. Let him know that the Prince of Eckmühl is to arrive at Minsk today, and that he will march to meet Bagration, who left Volkovisk on the 30th, and that I suppose that Prince Poniatowski the Viceroy went to Oehmiana and Maly-Soletchuiki, and from there he went to Vileika. Tell him that I do not wish to go to Dinabourg; but that, wishing to operate by my extreme right, we are far from being able; it is necessary to be able to settle on the events arrived at Bagration. If you can have an affair with him, break him up, throw him into the Pinsk marsh, or force him to retreat to Mohilef, you can come before him on Vitebsk. Tell him that I do not want his corps to go before Dinabourg; but that I leave him the master to go on Vidzy, provided he walks with prudence and wisdom. Praise the King that the Duke of Taranto has gone to Poneveje, Chavli, and Telchi, and that he will receive the order to march on Mitau. Let him know that my intention is to maneuver to turn the enemy on my right, because on his right the passage of the Dvina is nothing, the river being fordable; that by marching on Smolensk one threatens Moscow, and that by attacking Polotsk the enemy is forced to evacuate the whole country as far as four or five steps from St. Petersburg. This evacuation would have an advantageous effect on the morale of the Russians, who would be obliged to leave a garrison of fifteen thousand men in Dinabourg, and a garrison of the same strength in Riga, and, instead of a little war of affairs, rearguard and baffles, this will result in large flank movements. While the King of Westphalia and the Viceroy maneuver on the right and the Duke of Taranto would threaten the left, the 1st and 2nd corps with the cavalry corps would shake the enemy. Tell the King that as soon as he arrives at Vidzy, he must build ovens, organize provisions, and put on an outfit for the looting of light cavalry. He must make sure his artillery is with him. General Wittgenstein having withdrawn to Riga, he can only have in front of him the corps of Baggovoute, forming two divisions; that of Toufchkof and that of Chouvalof, forming four divisions; the guard and the two divisions of Doktourof, which can make about 80,000 men in infantry, cavalry, and artillery. By always overflowing the enemy by his left, the King will force him to evacuate Vidzy. The King has the 2nd and 3rd corps, which form about 70,000 men, three divisions of the 1st corps, including the Morand division and the cavalry corps of Generals Nansouty and Montbrun; that must make altogether 100 to 110,000 men, But it is not my intention to engage in so great an affair[23]

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without my presence. The Duke of Elchingen has been joined by his artillery and is in a position; but it is better to march a day later and risk only cavalry affairs. Tell him that my intention is not yet to maneuver on the Dvina, and that the cavalry and the transports of the army need a little rest.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18911. - ORDER.

Vilna, July 6, 1812.

His Majesty orders that, in case of a meeting of the 5th, 7th and 8th Corps and the 4th Corps of Cavalry Reserve with the corps commanded by the Prince of Eckmühl, the command shall be referred to the Prince of Eckmühl as the Emperor ordered His Majesty the King of Westphalia to recognize the Prince of Eckmühl as Commander-in-Chief as long as the army corps were united. It was ordained to Major General Marchand, Chief of Staff. and General Latour-Maubourg, Prince Poniatowski, General Reynier and General Tharreau, to comply with the above provisions, and all Division and Brigade Generals and all officers and 7th and 8th Army Corps and 4th Cavalry Reserve, to obey and comply with the orders given to them by Prince Eckmühl.

By order of the Emperor,

ALEXANDRE, Prince of Neuchâtel, Major General

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18912, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 7, 1812, six o'clock in the morning,

Cousin, make known, by a letter in figures, to the King of Westphalia the position of Prince Eckmühl, yesterday; you will draw it from the acknowledgments attached. Reiterate the order to activate his march. Tell him that the teachings he gives on Bagration are so imperfect that they embarrass us; that if he follows the course he has taken, he will let us know it.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[24]

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18913, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 7th, 1812.

My Cousin, the Guard must leave; his movement begins on the 10th, and continues on the 10th and the 11th. It is necessary that the deck-crew, the engineers, the artillery, and all who leave, take for six days half-way food. and it is necessary for the day of the 10th, to have 90,000 rations of bread to be distributed to the Guard, to be carried on the back, which will keep his food for six days; and 300 quintals of rice, to distribute one pound of rice to each man, which will assure the provisions of the Guard for ten days; that on the 11th and the 12th two convoys of bread, of 30,000 rations each, speak of Vilna to follow the movement of the Guard, which will give him bread for another four days; finally, on the 9th, the 10th, the 13th, he left ten convoys of bread loaded on the wagons of the headquarters, on auxiliary wagons, on those which would replace the wings of the 9th, 10th, and 2nd battalions, on those of the 14th battalion. and on the cars which might still arrive, so that in the days of the 9th, the 10th, and the 11th there will be 4,000 quintals of flour as a result of the Guard, which will make 360,000 rations of bread. or 10 days of food for the Guard and Headquarters; which, added to the ten days which the Guard will have brought, will make wines; days of bread, If the year does not work, other convoys will arrive; if it works, it will find resources in the cities. But I can not rest assured that the Guard and the Headquarters do not have twenty days of assured food, since the Guard is the last to go and must set an example of discipline. In this account should not be included the biscuit, the brandy, etc., contained in the forty caissons of the headquarters, which are an extraordinary resource. As there is a biscuit arrived, show it is in good condition and have the caissons of the headquarters filled, which is more advantageous in an unforeseen case,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18914. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 7th, 1812.

My Cousin, order General Eble to organize a crew[25]

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bridge of thirty-two boats, with two companies of pontooners and a company of sailors; he will put them under the orders of a superior officer. This crew will leave tomorrow under the command of General Kirgener, who will lead with him the company of sailors of the Guard, the company of sappers of the Guard, that of the grand-duchy of Berg, the three companies of sappers attached to the Guard, two companies from. battalion of the Danube workers, line of the companies of the engineer's train with its wagons, two companies of miners and two of sappers of the general park of the engineers. This crew will take bread starting for four days, and will go on Vidzy, under the orders of the King of Naples, As the deck crew delay the march of these troops, you will order that we let the pontooners and a company of sappers to escort him. General Kirgener will take the lead with the rest of his troop to be able to mend all the bridges on the road; he will leave small detachments at all points which have been provisionally restored, in order to complete the establishment of them in a durable manner. He will report all his labors to the Major General and the King of Naples. Send me a report on all deck crews and equipment from the Engineering Park,

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18915, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 7th, 1812.

My Cousin, it is necessary that a deck crew of thirty wagons leave no later than the 9th to go to Sventsiany, another leave on the 10th, another on the 11th, and another on the 12th; it is also necessary that everything that Eblé has left to Kovno leaves as soon as possible. I ordered the Intendant General to supply 10,000 quintals of oats to General Eble, so that he could feed his horses on the road. It seems proper, moreover, to grant him 200 pairs of oxen; hitching a pair to each wagon will relieve his horses. The Guard leaves far too many of his pieces; since we have men, and there is a lack of horses, we must use oxen, which are very good for the reserve parks. By means of 400 pairs of oxen, the artillery can harness two hundred wagons, which will give me thirty more pieces of cannon. The general of artillery must recommend the same way to the 3rd, the 1st[26]

and to the 2nd corps: in the absence of horses; to use oxen, which, not needing oats, will arrive infallibly, though later, but always in time for the replacement of divisions.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18916. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 7, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the prince of Schwarzenberg to Slonime, and Slouime from Nesvije; General Reynier to always be able to cover Warsaw; to the duke of Reggio to take with him his deck-crew, since he will need it to build a bridge over the Dvina; his fourteen boats will be sufficient by using easels; to the King of Naples to have a lift built at Vidzy.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18917. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA

Vilna, July 7, 1812,

My cousin, order the commander of the place, the intendant general, and the commissary or commissioner of the wars of the 1st corps, who would be here, that all the convoys destined for the 1st corps which should arrive in Vilna be directed not on the headquarters of the Prince d'Eckmühl, but on the Friant division, that is to say on Svenlsiany or Vidzy. Order that tomorrow half of the furnace builders in headquarters go to Vidzy, where they will build twelve kilns. Do not announce their arrival to the King of Naples and urge him, on the contrary, to have himself build furnaces. Order that the forty wagons of the little headquarters be ready to leave the day after tomorrow, loaded with as much rice, flour and biscuit as they can carry. All that belongs to the small headquarters of surgeons and ambulances will also be ready to leave the day after tomorrow to go to Sventsiany. Send a commander to Sveutsiany and two troop companies attached to headquarters for garrison duty. Also send a detachment of gendarmerie, a detachment of guides and a picket of the cavalry attached to the headquarters. Submit[27]

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order that tomorrow we build a raft bridge at Niementchine. Order the steward to procure 10,000 bushels of oats, which will be given to General Eble for the deck crew. Order that all wagons of the new model of the 10th, 9th and 2nd battalions of military crews be put in the arsenal, and that in place we use all the wagons of the country, which we can harness. It is necessary that the intendant give me a report tomorrow in this respect, and that all this may leave loaded half the day after tomorrow, and the other half on the 10th, without further delay.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18918. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA

Vilna. July 7, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Hogendorp that he has done very well to keep the Westphalian regiment; that he would have been very wrong to let him go; that it is my intention that he keep all the isolated men and train them in marching battalions; that he also keeps all cavalry regiments, giving them rye and oats; let me pass the state of all these troops, and I will designate the place on which they will be directed. In prescribing this order, I have two objects. The first is to give him many means to repel an aggression on Konigsberg and Memel; the second, to make the cavalry rest so that it arrives in good condition. These cavalry corps, coming from France and Hanover, require a fortnight's rest and good nutrition; I therefore advise him that oats should not be eaten, and that this cavalry should be kept in reserve.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18919. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA

Vilna. July 7, 1812.

My Cousin, there will be established a permanent bridge at Grodno and another at Olitta.

The deposits on the Niemen will be placed, namely: those of the 2nd and 3rd corps at Kovno, that of the 1st corps at Vilna; that of the 4th corps in Vilna; that of the 6th corps at Olitta; those of the 5th and 8th corps in Grodno,[28]

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All the isolated men coming out of the hospitals, all the men coming from the depots of the corps which are on the Oder or on the Vistula, will be directed on the deposits of their corps in Lithuania; they will be organized there, armed, etc. and will remain there until they are able to rejoin their regiments. The baggage and other effects which the corps would like to bring near them will also be directed from the Oder and Vistula deposits on the Lithuanian deposits mentioned above. The deposit of the Imperial Guard will be in Vilna. So generals commanding corps, colonels, and corps commanders will be able to summon Thorn depots, Danzig, Marienburg, Warsaw, Glogau, and Stettin all that is in a condition to serve, as well as the equipment of the baggage. etc., on the depot of Lithuania. A cavalry depot will be established at Kovno, as will a depot of military and crew crews of the artillery train. Another will be established at Meretch. Steps will be taken to have oats in Meretch and Kovno to feed all the horses. There will be shops in Kovno and Gliua. The Mordin, Pultusk and Warsaw stores will be transported to Grodno. The Olilta and Mereteh stores will be sourced from Thorn and Wchlau. It will be built six ovens in Meretch and as much in Olilta. It is necessary to establish a military road from Vilna to Olilta, and another from Vilna to Mercch, and finally one from Vilna to Grodno, and to extend these different points on the Vistula. All the equipment of the hospitals which is in Danzig and Konigsberg will be directed on Kovno and Vilna; a part of him who is in Warsaw will be directed on Grodno.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18920. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDNT THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN OCHMIANA,

Vilna, July 7, 1812,

My Cousin, all your headquarters will join you. He goes to Ochmiana. if you arrive at Minsk, there is no inconvenience in bringing him there; otherwise it will be convenient to arrest him at Ochmiana. I told you yesterday that the viceroy was marching on Ochmiana, where he will be on the 9th. Prince Poniatowski was advancing with all his infantry on Novogrudok.

From the original. Deposit of the war[29]

18021.-TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NOVOI-TROKI.

Vilna, July 7, 1812, after noon.

My son, the prince of Eckmühl was yesterday at Rakof, Ivenetz, Kumen, Perchuï, Roum. General Grouchy had posts up to Zaskevich and Vishnef. Prince Poniatowski had, on the 6th, of the world at Bielitsy. The king of Westphalia rested his whole corps on Beletzy. General Reynier and Prince Schwarzenberg pressed on Slonime, It was believed Bagration to Novogrudok, hunted on all sides. Rendezvous as quickly as possible to Boly-Soletchniki, in order to make your light cavalry act according to the circumstances. Couriers from the King of Westphalia arrive by Lida without obstacles. This evening, the king of Westphalia is at Beletzy. Support cavalry parties on Lida, to communicate with the king of Westphalia, and Boly-Soletchniki you will be able to direct your infantry according to the circumstances, to fly to the rescue of those who will need it and to do all the possible harm to Bagration.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18922. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA

Vilna, July 8, 1812.

My Cousin, the Konigsberg garrison deserves my full attention. There are at Konigsberg at this moment two battalions of Saxon infantry, two of the 8th regiment of Westphalia, two 3rd battalions of the Legion of the Vistula; total, six battalions and a division of 4,000 men. Prince Jean's regiment of light horse, arriving on the 8th at Thorn, may also be considered as having already arrived at Konigsberg. The two Saxon battalions left from Glogau on the 2nd of July, arriving before the 20th of July, may also be considered as having arrived at Konigsberg. There would, therefore, be at Konigsberg a division composed of a Saxon brigade of four battalions having their artillery, and of a brigade composed of two Polish battalions and two Westphalians; which will make eight battalions. Brigadier-General Corsin, who commands at Pillau, could in case of event be put at the head of one of these brigades. The regiment of Saxon light horse reunited with the various cavalry marching regiments who have orders to rest at Konigsberg, which will always maintain 12 to 1500 horses,[30]

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would form a pretty good brigade of cavalry. It is necessary to have Konigsberg a brigadier general of the French cavalry to communicate it, and it would be necessary another brigadier general for the infantry. I desire that General Loison be ordered to go to Konigsberg to take the post of governor, and that General Hogendorp should go to Vilna, where he will take the government of all Lithuania. General Hogendorp will transmit his instructions to General Loison. I need to have at Konigsberg the general accustomed to the war to be able to repulse the aggressions which would be attempted either against Pillau or against Memel. Order that an active division be formed at Konigsberg in the following manner: 1st brigade, four Saxon battalions, with four pieces of cannon; 2nd brigade, two battalions of the Vistula, two Westphalian battalions, having two pieces of cannon; 3rd brigade, the regiment of light Saxon horses, 1,500 horses of the French regiments of march.

General Loison will be ready to carry himself with that division, which will be about 6,000 men, wherever necessary.

It will be enough for the garrison of Danzig two battalions of the Confederation, two battalions of the 7th Wurtembergeois, four battalions of Baden and a regiment of cavalry of Baden. I therefore desire you to order Berg's brigade, infantry, cavalry, artillery, to go to Konigsberg, under the command of General Damas; By this means there will be at Koenigsberg, independently of the division of Konigsberg, that brigade of the division of Berg; which will increase six battalions, a cavalry regiment, and fourteen pieces of cannon. This movement must take place as quickly as possible. General Loison, then, will have at Konigsberg, in infantry, cavalry, and artillery, 12 to 15,000 men, with whom he must keep Konigsberg and Pillau, to have his eyes on Memel, and to go to Danzig, if this last place needs help. The 8th Company of the 8th Foot Artillery Regiment was destined to garrison Marienburg, where it had arrived on the 5th of July; but, as Marienburg becomes very much behind, my intention is that this artillery be directed to Kovuo, where it will be garrisoned. A simple squad of artillery from the garrison of Danzig will suffice for Marienburg. It is necessary that you write to M. de Saint-Marsan, who will speak to the Minister of War of Prussia, so that, if the enemy made a descent on Danzig, the garrison of Kolberg could furnish a brigade of 2 to 3,000 men, and the garrison of Graudenz a detachment of 15 to 1800 men,[31]

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who would come to the rescue; and that, if the descent was directed against Konigsberg, the garrison of Kolberg could join 15 to 1800 men with the troops of Danzig who would come to the aid of Konigsberg.

Give me, in a single painting, all of the troops on the rear between the Niemen and the Oder, namely: 1st The garrisons of Konigsberg, Pillau, Nehrung Point, Marienburg, Thorn, etc .; 2nd all the 9th corps; and let me know when these different troops will arrive. In the same survey, you will add what forms the 11th corps, and the garrisons between the Oder and the Rhine, under the command of the Duke of Castiglione, which will complete all of what I have on my rear in the left of Niemen.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18923. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 8, 1812.

Cousin, I have made known to you tonight my intentions on the defense of Konigsberg. There must be two brigades of infantry and a brigade of light cavalry, under the orders of two French generals. General Corsin may be one of those generals. I ordered that Berg's brigade, artillery, cavalry, and infantry, set out without delay from Danzig, and proceeded to Konigsberg. General Damascus, in whom I trust, may be placed with this brigade at Labiau, in a position to march on Tilsit, Memel, and Konigsberg. The fourteen pieces of artillery which he has, including a battery on horseback, the regiment of 1,000 lancers, render the arrival of this brigade very important at Labiau.

Make known to the governor of Konigsberg the importance of this disposition, the correspondence which he must hold with the commander of Memel to be able to go to the aid of this place, especially of the bridge of Tilsit, and to cover Niemen in the fact that the removal of the Duke of Taranto, who is marching on Mitau and Chavli, makes some Cossacks or light troops want to insult the Niemen; the loss of the least convoy on this river would be extremely disagreeable to me.

Order the governor of Konigsberg to speed up the march of the Saxon cavalry regiment, which this regiment will not take from Thorn, in order to reach Konigsberg promptly.[32]

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Give me the state of the battalions and squadrons which will arrive at Konigsberg, and which must be ordered to stay there until further orders.

I think I have told you that General Loison would have the command of Konigsberg, and that I was charging General Hogeudorp with the command of Vilna and Lithuania. Give him the order to go to Vilna, to travel Memel, Tilsit, Kovno, to inspect the different parts of his new government, to give orders and make the proper arrangements,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18924, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 8, 1812,

The Major General will inform General Bourcier that, under whatever pretext, I do not want horses which are not yet five years old; that I prefer not to receive anything; that as for size I let him master to do what we can; but I do not hear any change for age.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18925. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTHE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Vilna, July 8, 1812,

Duke de Feltre, I do not think it is very necessary to increase the recruiting of the cavalry; for so many horses are lost in this country, that it will be very difficult, with all the resources of France and Germany, to maintain the present strength of the regiments.

A regiment of voltigeurs and one of the guardsmen must have arrived at Paris. It takes 3,000 men to complete them. Have all men of good will in all cohorts of National Guards to enter the Guard. I guess a lot will come up. Have them come to Paris, and quickly complete these two regiments; you will put them on the march for Berlin as soon as they are complete, dressed and ready to go. Send me every week the status report of the Imperial Guard depots,[33]

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as well as the various corps of corporals and sergeants that I trained at Fontainebleau,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18926, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTHE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Vilna, July 8, 1812,

Duke de Feltre, there are in the 27th military division the cadres of the 3rd and 4th battalions of the 7th line and the 4th battalion of the 42nd. There are in the 28th division the cadres of the 4th battalion of the 67th, the 101st and a Swiss battalion, I would like to complete these six battalions, in order to make available the 14th provisional demi-brigade, which I would send to Udine to replace the 13th regiment, and the 15th provisional demi-brigade, which I would send to Tuscany to replace the 112th; that would make me two handsome regiments that I would bring to Verona, and from there to the Grande Armée. It would be all the less inconvenient that the 82nd, 83rd, 81st, and 85th cohorts are to be clothed, exercised, in the summer of August. and have a color. Let me know what means could be used to have the men necessary to recruit these six battalions; for I have a great desire to bring to the army troops with a whole and well organized spirit, like the 13th and the 112th. I would like these two regiments to be assembled in August at Verona, to arrive at Berlin in the September current. I will wait for the report you will give me on this.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18927, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTHE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Vilna, July 8, 1812,

Duke de Feltre, I would like you to report to me on the cohorts and other observation corps in the Pyrenees, as well as on the Bayonne observation corps. I presume that you have conducted on Bayonne both demi-brigades who were at Cherbourg. Take steps to complete the demi-brigade which has been formed at La Rochelle, and which must also be at Bayonne. Finally, let me know when the demi-brigade which is in Pontivy, composed of the battalions of the 86th, 70th, 15th, 47th, will be able to leave[34]

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for Bayonne. This requires that the cohorts are dressed and already in good condition, to keep Britain. I would like this demi - brigade to be returned, at the latest, to Bayonne about the 15th of September, as well as that of Cherbourg. September is the moment when one must be in force in Bayonne; it is the time of the opening of the autumn campaign, and it is advisable to have a reserve at this time which can remedy all the errors of the army of the North.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18928. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTHE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Vilna, July 8, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, there are in Mantua, in Peschiera and Legnago, which are unhealthy countries, many young conscripts 9th, 35th, 84th and 92nd regiments. These are all lost men. Order General Vignolle to place in Verona the rest of French troops at Mantua, Legnago, and Peschiera, that is to say, a battalion of the 81st, one of the 92nd, one of the 35th, and one of the 9th; which will make four battalions or 2,400 men. Appoint one of the majors who are in Italy to command these four battalions, it will form a provisional demi-brigade which, being in a very good air at Verona, will be of great service. He will be able to go from there to Venice, Udine and wherever the service will require. The Italians and the National Guards will suffice for the guard of the places. This is important, do not lose sight of it. The conscripted games that would remain in these places would be lost men, instead of the Italians being acclimated. The 5th battalion of the 13th French line is at Palmanova; order him to go to Udine. Palmanova is very unhealthy; the Italian troops will suffice; moreover, this battalion can always, in the event of an event, throw itself into Palmanova. Give the same order for the 106th, which is in Venice: that it goes to Udine, which will form in this city a provisional 2nd demi-brigade. A major will take command. These two battalions will always be able to throw themselves from there in Palmanova or Venice, according to the circumstances, and in the meantime they will be in good air, Venice will have enough troops, since there will remain 4,000 garrison men regardless of what you reap; but by that you will save many men.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[35]

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18929. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MINSK

Vilna, July 8, 1812, eleven o'clock in the evening.

My Cousin, the King of Westphalia writes to me that his outposts are at Korelitchi between Novogrudok and Mir. I send you an excerpt of the King's dispatch and the report attached to it, so that you may read the information on Bagration's retreat.

NAPOLEON,

Our outposts are on the Dvina. The headquarters of the King of Naples is at Vidzy.
From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

18930. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th BODIES OF: THE GREAT ARMY, IN BOLY-SOLETCHNIKI,

Vilna, July 8, 1812, midnight.

My Son, it seems that Bagration reads himself on Mir and everything goes on this point. Prince Eckmühl headed to Minsk. So press on your left; I long to know you at Ochmiana.

NAPOLEON,

According to the copy comm. by S.A.I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18931. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA,
COMMANDING THE 5th, 7th AND 8th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BIELITSY.

Vilna, July 8, 1812, midnight.

Brother, I receive your letter from the 7th at nine in the evening. General Latour-Maubourg must have with him not only his light cavalry, but also all his cavalry and light artillery. This is how the generals Montbrun, Nansouty, Grouchy and the King of Naples march. It is necessary to intermingle, when it is possible, some companies of voltigeurs. If General Latour-Maubourg had had at Novogrudok, with his light cavalry, his cuirassiers, and his light artillery, he could have harmed the enemy. Pursue the enemy with the sword in the back. Prince Eckmühl must be in Minsk.

NAPOLEON,

According to the copy comm. by S.A.I Prince Jerome.[36]

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18932. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA

Vilna, July 9, 1812.

Cousin, answer to Prince Poniatowski that you have put his letter before the eyes of the Emperor; that his Majesty has been very displeased to see that he speaks of wages, bread, when it comes to pursuing the enemy; that his Majesty was all the more astonished that he is alone on his side, with a few people, and that when the guards of the Emperor, who came to Paris on forced marches, instead of to have half-ration, lack bread, have only meat and do not murmur, the Emperor could not see with difficulty that the Poles are bad enough soldiers and have bad spirit enough to meet such deprivations ; that his Majesty hopes that she will not hear any more of this.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18933. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY; IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 9, 1812.

Cousin, the road of the army passes over the states of the King of Saxony, those of the King of Prussia, the departments of Posen and Bromberg, and finally the department of Lomza. The governors of Posen, Elbing and Konigsberg provide all these routes. There is only one gap: it is the department of Lomza, that is to say the road from Gumbiuncn to Rovno and from Bastenburg to Goldap, and from Goldap to Olitta, Meretch and Grodno. This department is divided into several districts, namely: Kalwarya, Maryampol, Lomza, etc. Tell me the details and put as many Polish military commanders as there are districts, with the indication of the portion of road that everyone must watch. Independently of the National Guard, they must be given a company which will be drawn from the Modlin depot. A French commander, at least of the rank of colonel, will be appointed to command all these departments and to receive the contributions of the district commanders, and to be able, according to the circumstances, to go to the different points where his presence would be necessary. This superior commander already exists: it is General Vedel. Make known the different roads that cross these departments: that of Grodno in Warsaw, that of Meretch in Warsaw, that of Kovno in Warsaw, that of Gumbinnen in[37]

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Kovno, that of Gumbinnen to Olitta, etc. Draw these roads on the map; determine the locations of the stores, stations and points to be monitored.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

18934. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 9, 1812.

My Cousin, I just went through the states of situation of places.

The commander of Kovno does not send clear states: he carries in his condition of the 6th of July a marching regiment, including officers, 654 men. One does not know what that means. This marching regiment must have a number. Besides, I do not see that he sends reports every day; from 3 to 7; where are the states of 4, 5 and 6? According to the state of Wilkowyszki of July 3rd, a company of the 14th battalion of crews, coming from Thorn, passed to Wilkowyszki; it's probably the 3rd one. Order the commandant of Wilkowyszki to send back to Vilna, as soon as possible, all the builders and honored laborers of whatever corps who may have remained there. The situation of Gumbinnen is not complete, and it's June 29th. One must write to the commander to be more exact. The state of Insterburg is only a store-place; at Thorn the states are badly done; so I see in the stall of June 18 to 19: crew, 149 men, 233 horses, without indication of battalion or company.

At Thorn, in the state of June 22, there are 137 men and 141 horses of the 15th battalion of military crews. It does not say to which cars are hitched the different horses that pass. A company of the 16th battalion of French crews, coming from Warsaw, passed on the 20th; it even appears that two detachments have passed.

I see Oslerode in the state of June 23: 2nd company of the 7th battalion of military crews, 145 horses; 4th company 1,139; 3rd Company of the 16th Battalion, 200; 2nd Company of the 6th Battalion, 10.

I see in the state of the 22nd company of the 14th battalion of crews, 259 horses; 4th company of the same, 236; 3rd Company of the 7th Battalion, 116.

I see in the state of 19: crew train of the 16th battalion,[38]

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234 horses; 1st Company of the 6th Battalion, 165; 2nd company of the same battalion, 173.

I see in reissue of the 26th 3rd company of the 6th battalion of crews, 235 horses. In the state of 24: 4th company of the 16th battalion of crews, 195 horses.

These states of situation of Osterode seem better made, but are very old.

I do not find the states of Konigsberg or Heilsberg.

I desire you to give me every day the new states which come to you from places; it is a very important match. It seems to me followed with less accuracy this year than in the preceding campaigns. It would be necessary to print a template of these reports and to add a good instruction on how to fill them; but at the same time it would be necessary for someone at the General Staff to be in charge of reuniting them, and to restore the commanders of the place whenever their reports were badly made. I want you to report on the states that are here of all the convoys and detachments of the military crews that are en route between the Vistula and the Niemen. If these reports were well made and well kept, we could know at just the right moment. all that we have on the roads below the Vistula.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18935. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 9, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Taranto that, as we have lost many artillery horses by the lack of oats, I have sent Prince Giedroye to Samogitia to buy 2,000 horses there, and to favor him as much that it will be possible for him.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18936. - IN THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA

Vilna, July 9, 1812.

Cousin, look at the last letter (1)

1) This letter has not been found.[39]

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I wrote you for the Duke of Taranto, and substitute for it the following letter.

NAPOLEON.

"The Duke of Reggio has been ordered to go to Soloki, the Duke of Elchingen to Kozachizna, The King of Naples to Vidzy, the enemy appears to be concentrating at Dinaburg, The Prince of Eckmuhl has arrived at Minsk, hetman Platof, with his Cossacks, and the corps of Bagration who wanted to go to this city were cut off. They go to Bobruisk, The king of Westphalia pursues them, and was yesterday at Mir. The Viceroy is heading On the top of the Dvina, the Guard and the headquarters must leave here in a few days, the Emperor intends to march on Moscow and St. Petersburg, thereby forcing the army to Dinabourg to ascend and liberate all Courland and Livonia The garrison of Riga, commanded by General Essen, whose corps was dislocated, is composed of thirty 3rd battalions, each of from 2 to 300 men, all recruits of this year and do not deserve any consideration. that the place will be threatened, there will be a division of Dinabourg; for, according to the information we have, the present composition of the garrison is not suitable for defending it. The Emperor can not give you positive orders, but only general instructions, because the distance is already considerable and will become even more so. Take on Jacobstadt and Friedrichstadt and threaten to cross the Dvina. This movement will have the advantage of obliging the Russian army which is in Dinabourg to make a detachment on the right bank to cover these two points of passage. You will send me all the information you may have on the river. You will dispel Baousk's rally, and you will send, if you think fit, a column to occupy Mitau. As soon as you have heard that the enemy has evacuated Dinabourg, leaving or leaving no garrison in the place, and that the movements therefore move away from the Dvina, you will pass this river at one of Jacobstadt's two points or from Friedrichstadt, or at any other point you find more convenient, and you will proceed to the blockade of Riga on either bank. His Majesty orders that the siege crew commanded by General d'Arancey, and who is at Konigsberg, be at your service; it is organized in all that is necessary for the seat of Riga; the staff and the equipment, everything is there. As soon as you decide that the enemy army is far away, you will order the departure of this crew[40]

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to bring him to Tilsit, and you will proceed to the meeting of your troops, so that in twelve or fifteen days time this crew may arrive in front of Riga, so that you may begin the siege and take the city. General d'Arancey is ordered to send an officer to take your orders. You will take care of sparing the Curonian. You will let the states exist. Establish a governor general. It is difficult and useless to foresee the position of the army which will protect you; everything leads one to hope that the year of Dinabourg and Bagration can no longer meet until the Dvina has passed. The army at Dinabourg is placed between you and the Duke of Reggio; but as soon as the Dvina has passed, you will communicate immediately, and so you will soon be able to hear what is going on. The Emperor leaves you the master to do for Memel what seems suitable to you; you must have columns that occupy Polanghen and Lihau and watch the coast.

"In summary, the first purpose of your corps is to protect the Niemen, so that navigation can not be troubled in any way; his second goal is to contain the Riga garrison; the third, to threaten to pass the Dvina between Riga and Dinabourg to disturb the enemy; the fourth, to occupy the Courland and preserve the country intact, since there are so many resources for the army; finally, as soon as the time comes, to cross the Dvina, to block Riga, to bring in the siege crew and to start the siege of this place, which it is important to have to assure our quarters of winter and give us the fulcrum on this great river,

I send you a number, so that you can correspond often, and even by the people of the pars, without danger.

It is likely that the Emperor will pass the Dvina from the 18th to the 22nd. Settle on it. All that belongs to Samogitia, part of the Vilna government, will be governed by the government; and for Courland I order the intendant general to send you two hearers, whom you can use to watch over the Emperor's different interests."

From the original. Deposit of the war.[41]

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18037. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN BOLY-SOLETCHNIKI.

Vilna, July 9, 1812.

My Son, I receive your letter from the 8th at ten o'clock at night. The position of your light cavalry seems to me good; but I believe already the Prince of Eckmühl in Minsk. The light cavalry of the King of Westphalia is at Novogrudok. The enemy was on Mir, he appears to be retiring on Bohrouisk. That being so, my plan is for you to arrive at Polotsk or Vitebsk as soon as possible, and to occupy all of Livouia by a single march, also threatening St Petersburg and Moscow. You had to make ovens at Vileika; if they are not started, I prefer that you have them done at Dokchitsy, which is the junction of the roads of Dinahurg, Disna, Pololsk and Vitebsk. Direct your army corps there, and even General Saint-Cyr, in the sense of arriving as soon as possible at Dokchilsy, and from whence I shall direct you, according to the circumstances, to Polotsk or Vilebsk. The country of Dokchitsy, and especially that of Gloubokoie, are very beautiful; thirty castles exist in the neighborhood. The Russians had a big shop in Dounilovitchi. By sending out furnace builders, a commissioner of intelligent wars, sailors, under the protection of light cavalry, and some companies of voltigeurs, you will find great means, if you send General Charpentier and Poles who make it clear the importance of observing severe discipline for the soldier to have provisions, flour, brandy, etc. The village of Loujki is very beautiful; there are some convents throughout this country. Wear your workers, your sappers, your sailors, your tools in mind, so that it happens with your light cavalry, and that they can take advantage of the two days in advance that they will have on your army corps to prepare all this which will be needed, rafts, easels, etc. The Dvina is not deep, and easels will be enough to make the bridges. I do not know where General Saint-Cyr is; I leave you the master to direct him so that he arrives promptly at Dokchitsy. There are several ways, make him take the most convenient, and he does not waste time.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg[42]

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18938. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN MINSK.

Vilna, July 9, 1812.

My Cousin, I suppose you today in Minsk. The King of Westphalia will be, I think, soon to Mir, and the Prince of Schwarzenberg to Nesvije. I suppose Bagration and the hetman Platof are heading for Bobrouisk. I do not think they think of passing the Dnieper; they will try to gain marches and to reach Orcha and Vitebsk before us. I therefore think that with the Compans and Dessaix divisions, the Claparède division, your two light cavalry brigades, the Colbert brigade, since you have it, the Valence division, the two divisions of Grouchy, and your headquarters, that is that is to say, your sappers, pontooners, etc., you must go to Borisof and Orchu, The King of Westphalia will continue to pursue the sword in the loins the corps of Bagration, and, if necessary, one of his divisions can even go through Minsk, in order to keep in touch with you. The Viceroy will go to Dokchitsy, from where he will go to Polotsk and Vitebsk; I myself will go to Dokchitsy and Viteusk, or to Dinabourg, according to circumstances. It is likely that I will go with my Guard, the 4th and the 6th Corps, first on Dokchitsy, then on Viteosk, thus threatening St. Petersburg and Moscow, having you on my right, and you, having on your right the King of Westphalia and Schwarzenberg. The King of Naples would then remain before Dinabourg; but, supposing that the result of these maneuvers is to throw Bagration beyond the Dnieper, and the enemy seeing that I am directing 100,000 men on Smolensk, and as much midway from St. Petersburg, he will be obliged himself to retire to cover St. Petersburg. The King of Naples, who will be able to pass to Drouya, with the 2nd and 3rd corps and your three divisions, will follow him constantly. This is the general plan of operations. Your forces are divided by circumstances; but as soon as the Dvina has been passed, it will be easy for you to join the three divisions. During all these operations, the Duke of Tureute will surround Riga and will seige this place. It is very important for me to know how many divisions Bagration has with him so that he can determine which ones he has behind. We had long been of the opinion that the 27th division was in Volhynia; but it appears from the most recent information that this division was[43]

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could not pass. It is a division of new formation, composed of children and in rather bad state.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

18939. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY.A VILNA.

Vilna, July 10, 1812

He was appointed a governor in Vilna. This governor will have under his command the Illyrian regiment, which will keep garrison at Kovno, the 129th, which is garrisoned at Vilna, the battalion of Hesse-Darmstadt, that of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, which are at Kovno, and which will keep garrison at Vilna, a company of Saxon light horse of 80 men, and finally a detachment of gendarmerie; moreover, the three battalions of the 3rd Corps, commanded by Major Barral, who are marching from Kovno to Vilna; which makes a force of more than 6,000 men.

There will be at Kovno an artillery company for the service of the pieces which have been abandoned there, and that this company may be used in case of an event to drive away the enemy parties. There will be two artillery companies in Vilna. Four pieces of cannon will be placed at Kovno on the left bank of the Viliya, abutting the bridgehead of the Viliya; four on the heights that beat the Nielllen bridgehead in Vilna, and six 12-piece and two howitzers at the arsenal to beat the bridgehead. As soon as the redoubts are built, two pieces of cannon will be placed in each.

Artillery. There will be the artillery colonel in charge of the service in the Vilna government. He will ensure that the caissons, rifles and ammunition are collected on the rear. He will have the supervision of the arsenal of Kovno, where will be placed a deputy director, and that of the arsenal and workshop of Vilna.

Engineers. General Chambarlhiac will serve as Director of Engineering of the Vilna Circle. There will be a deputy director in Kovno. A sappers company will be left in Kovno for the works I ordered. Two companies will be left in Vilna for the same purpose.

Administration, There will be an authorizing officer for the Vilna Government. There will be a war commissioner in Kovno. There will be storekeepers in Kovno and Vilna and food workers who will be in charge of the service in the area of government in[44]

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the stage locations, the composition of the stores, the organization of hospitals, etc.

The Vilna government will be considered a military division and treated the same.

The services of artillery, engineering, administration, police, will be centralized, so that the military commander, the commander of the engineers, the commander of the artillery, the authorizing officer, the inspector of the service of the provisions, hospitals, form a whole that will provide all services.

A French officer, with a gendarmerie detachment, will reside in Vilna and be under the governor's orders. We will gather the most gendarmerie we can, French and that instituted by the country. This officer will carry himself with the proper force on all points where his presence will be useful, always by the orders of the governor.

District Police. There are eleven districts in the Vilna government. I appointed eleven sous-prefets, eleven commanders. There will be eleven military commanders; these eleven commanders will be captured in the garrison; six companies will be detached for this purpose. I will be shown a map and the distribution of these six companies. There will be a captain commanding in one district with half of the company; one lieutenant will be placed in the other district with the other half or third of the company.

The functions of these commanders will be to stop by the forces they will have in hand and those that will offer them the inhabitants all the stragglers, to confer with the nobles and the owners to bring back the inhabitants, to protect the harvest and to establish the better police everywhere, to bury the corpses of horses and others on the main roads, to have the bridges repaired, and finally to organize the necessary stores for the passage of the troops, to put the orderlies at the posts to assure the communications of the army, the march of the couriers. These commanders will correspond with the governor to send him status reports and will do all that is relative to the good police of the government.

In the instruction which will be presented to me, the portion of the road on which the command of each officer will be extended will be made known. however, in their absence, officers of the Confederacy may be taken.

The governor of Vilna will always have three mobile columns, each composed of 100 infantry men, of some inhabitants of the country to be commanded by staff officers or garrison, chosen from among the most intelligent and most[45]

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farms. The governor will send them to the places of passage of the army, large convoys, finally where need be for the maintenance of order and public safety.

The same measure will be taken for the government of Minsk, which has ten districts. Prince Eckmühl will provide for a garrison of 2,000 Allied men.

The same will be done for the Bialystok government, which has nine districts, and for Grodno, which has four districts.

The King of Westphalia will leave Grodno with a Polish battalion.

General Reynier will leave a Saxon battalion in the Bialystok government.

The value of a cavalry squadron, officers of the engineers, artillery, administrators, & c., Will be left in the governments, according to the orders given above.

For artillery and engineering, the governments of Bialystok and Grodno will be considered as one government.

The staff will present me in the day a map on which will be drawn the divisions of the different governments or commands; the organization of the two districts, where there must be in one a captain and in the other a lieutenant; the portion of the routes that each officer will have to watch, the location of the posts, etc.

Four Provost Marshals will be established in each government with the right to sentence to death.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the War.

18940. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, in Vilna.

Vilna, July 10, 1812.

Cousin, let General Saint-Cyr know that he must march as soon as possible to go, with his infantry, his cavalry and his artillery, on Dounilovitchi, passing through Vilna, Lovurichki and Mikhalichki. Instruct the viceroy of this order which you give to General Saint-Cyr, who must inform you of the day of his arrival at Vilna, from Vilna to Gloubokoie, there is but six days march.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[46]

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18941. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 10, 1812.

Cousin, let the viceroy know that you put before me the letter of July 9 at three o'clock in the afternoon, that I am surprised that he did not know when the enemy was quite retired and the Prince of Eckmühl at Minsk; that it is necessary that he set out on his way to reach the Dvina, on his way through Dokchitsy and Glubokoye, and that he send forth, with all due diligence, his builders, his engineers, and his sailors; that there is more to do now than to win the Dvina before Buaration has arrived there; that everything leads to think that Bagration went on Bohrouisk.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war

18942. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA

Vilna, July 10, 1812.

Cousin, send a gendarmerie brigade to go to Voronovo. They will stop the looters of the 33rd, who commit horrible damage in this country. They take this route under the pretext of finding the 1st corps, which is in Minsk. All those who have committed crimes will be arrested; the others will be escorted to Minsk.

Write to the viceroy, who is at Soubotniki, to leave a patrol and some officers to prevent any man of Prince Eckmühl from passing Solelchniki; that, under the pretext of fetching the 1st corps which is at Minsk, these men are on Lida, to plunder this valley, which is superb; that he should place pickets on the different wheels from Vilna to Lida, and let no man, either infantry or cavalry, be allowed from the Prince of Eckmuhl. Recommend to the viceroy to create a military commission and to pick up all these stragglers.

It is also very necessary that he places posts at the outlet of the roads, so that what belongs to the divisions Dessaix, Grouchy and Compans, instead of going on Soletchniki, goes on Ochmiana to go to Minsk.

Send the Prince of Eckmühl to organize the road from Minsk to Ochrniaua. I suppose you sent him the organization of the[47]

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the government of Minsk, as I ordered you yesterday the organization of the government of Vilna.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18943, - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN MINSK.

Vilna. July 10, 1812.

My Cousin, the king of Westphalia, was yesterday Novogrudok; I think it will be 10 today at Mir. I send you a note that an agent handed me. It seems that the enemy has a bridgehead in Borisof. It will therefore be necessary for you to maneuver to turn it. You will not be able to master Borisof too soon. It might be possible for Bagration to go behind the Berezina. The Viceroy's movement on Dokchirsy will turn this position.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

19944. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDNT THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN MINSK.

Vilna, July 11, 1812, eight o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, I receive your letter of the 9th. I attach great importance to you, and I will feel satisfaction at knowing you master of Borisof. If you come on the spot if it would be convenient to destroy the bridgehead, you must leave this work and complete it with another on the other side. I hope you find resources. and shops in Borisof. I think you have your eyes on Bagration. I prefer you go to Kokhanovo. You can be there in five to six days, and you will be there to reach Mohilef, Vitebsk on Orcha. As soon as I know you at Borisof, my intention is to take my headquarters to Glubokoye. I ordered the viceroy to go to Dokchitsy. I count that the king of Westphalia is today in Nesvije. Let me know if you believe there is a line from Nesvije to Igoumen; for I should like to direct the king of Westphalia directly to Mohilef, by bringing prince Schwarzenberg to Nesvije. It seems to me quite evident that Bagration must first seek to ascend the left bank of the Berezina; that, when it sullies you of the masters of Borisoff, that it is no longer possible, he will seek to ascend the right bank of the Dnieper, and finally, when he sees that it is not[48]

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no more possible, it will probably pass the Dnieper to try to reach us before Smolensk.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

18945. - TO MARSHAL MORTIER, DUKE OF TREVISO, COMMANDING THE YOUNG GUARD, IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 11, 1812,

My Cousin, you must have food until 18. So be careful that your troop is working in good order and there is no looting. Leave the Delaborde division two hours before the Boguet division. Send General Lefebvre, my order officer Christin, a war commissioner and furnace builders forward. General Lefebvre will take care to be illuminated in the distance. Have two sapper companies take the lead, and repair the road. My order officer has the sketch drawn by the engineers; there is a passage in the forest that is bad, have it repaired and put in condition. It is necessary that at the arrival of the builders one begins to work with furnaces; stay there yourself day and night, and remove all obstacles. You must have under your escort a convoy of seventy-five wagons of the 6th battalion of military crews carrying a thousand quintals of flour. The country is said to be very good; try to get resources; if you maintain a firm discipline, everything suggests that you will have many and that you will find flour and oat shops. All my Guard will go there, and I myself will have my headquarters there. Write me daily to find out where you are, the nature of the country you are traveling and the news you will learn.

General Nansouty has passed before you on this road; General Lefebvre will bond with him. On your right the prince of Eckmühl, who is in Minsk, goes to Berezina.

Tomorrow, at your bedtime, call the division Delaborde, the Roguet division: the number of wagons and artillery crew, and all that you have in your suite in artillery ammunition, luggage and objects of the headquarters.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Treviso.

NAPOLEON.[49]

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18946. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 11, 1812,

Cousin, answer the King of Westphalia, whom you receive with astonishment his letter of the 9th of July at ten o'clock in the afternoon; that the order of 30 is positive; Let it be said in these terms: "You must" go to Minsk, General Reynier, without, however, losing sight of covering Warsaw, will go to Nesvije. This means that the first goal of General Reynier must be to cover Warsaw; that the second, if the enemy withdraws all his troops from Volhynia, and that there is nothing more to fear for the Grand Duchy, would be to go to Nesvije. But, as all the facts tend to prove that the enemy has left two divisions in Volhynia, it is fitting that General Reynier should not lose sight of his principal object, which is to cover Warsaw. Stop his movement to Slonime. Prince Schwarzenberg will pass by him first to Nesvije, and then to the Dvina. That General Beynier sends parties to Pinsk, and ranks so as to fall on the flanks of all that would lead to Warsaw. In this position, it will retrogress on Warsaw if this country is threatened; but as long as the enemy knows about the outlets of Pinsk with corps ready to fall on its flanks, and besides that it will have to fear our entry into Volhynia, it will be out of proportion to reach the territory of Vursovie, and if he did, it would not be with impunity. General Reynier must also send back to Praga the regiment which was destined for the garrison of this place, and which has been badly removed from it. The position of General Reynier on the rear is therefore useful. His Majesty is not surprised that you do not understand that instructions given at a distance of a hundred leagues have opposite ends which events must clear up; but what she is complaining of is that instead of studying these instructions you are ignoring them. To cover the Duchy of Warsaw it is not necessary at all to be on the Bug, and if that were the first purpose of General Reynier being to cover the duchy, he should have left troops on the Bug, learning that the enemy had left two divisions in Volhynia. Plus, like you, were not informed of what Bagration had left in Volhynia, that you did not know how many divisions he had with him, that you did not even chase him, and that he was able to retire as well. quietly only if he had no one behind him; all this being contrary to the usages of war, it is not[50]

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not extraordinary that everything is the same. General Reynier, according to what the enemy has left in Volhynia, is therefore the master, either to return to Brzesc, or to remain at Sionime, by sending parties to Pinsk, But the principal is, until the enemy has withdrawn his troops from Volhynia, that he leaves a corps of observation within reach of Warsaw, and to fall upon all that, from Volhynia, would threaten the duchy and the rear of the army. Order General Reynier to write a Major General directly and to send the information he has. Majesty deems it proper that it be General Reynier who remains under observation to guard the Grand Duchy, and not Prince Schwarzenberg; many reasons determine it on this object. The King must inform Prince Schwarzenberg that my desire is that he should go, if Warsaw is not imminently threatened, to Nesvije.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

18947. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 11, 1812.

Cousin, order the Duke of Treviso to leave tomorrow at one o'clock in the morning with the Delaborde division, having eight pieces of cannon. 600 light cavalry horses of the Guard, chasseurs à cheval, Polish and Dutch spearmen. commissioned by General Lefebvre-Desnoëttes. He will also have with him all the builders of the ovens of the Guard, the park of the engineers, composed of a company of the train of the engineers, a company of sailors of the Guard, of several companies of miners and sappers, such as the General Chasseloup will give an account of it, and finally a company of the Danube workers with his officers. He will make sure that all this starts at three o'clock in the morning. An hour later, he will send the Roguet division to follow his movement. He will wear himself; by Lovarichki, Mikhalichki and Kobylnik, on Glubokoye. He will take care that all his people have food at half a ration of bread, an ounce and a half or two. ounces of rice, and a pound of meat, for the 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th. General Lefebvre-Desnoëtles will win two days with his cavalry, a commissioner of wars , furnace builders, a sappers company and an engineer officer, to build twelve kilns at Gloubokoye. The commissioner of wars will make requisitions on the spot[51]

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in all the neighborhoods, in order to gather flour, wheat, fodder, and meat, and to assure the subsistence of the troops. A brigade of my service will follow the Duke of Treviso and will be under his command, with a detachment of my House, to establish my headquarters at Gloubokoie. General Boguet will also have eight pieces of artillery with him. You will order the Duke of Danzig to send the brigade of foot-fighters commanded by General Curial to Sventsiany tomorrow with the battery of eight pieces which I have attached to this brigade. He will have with her provisions for the 12th, the 13th, the 14th, the 15th, the 16th, the 17th and the 18th. The grenadier brigade on foot will be ready to leave also for Sventsiauy on the 13th at one o'clock in the morning. , also having supplies for the 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19. The Guard cavalry will begin its movement tomorrow, 12, to focus on Sventsiany; it will continue it on the 13th. A Major of the Guard, with 3 or 400 horses, will march with the Duke of Danzig. General Sorbier will be ordered to give me the state of his convoys, by informing me of the places where they must arrive nightly; the heads of these convoys will not pass Sventsiany. General Eble will give me the state of the deck crew, and also inform me of the place where he arrives every day; he will not go beyond Sventsiany either. General Kirgener will be ordered to give me the state of the park, and will not exceed Sventsiany either. We will draw up a table in order of all this movement, and it will be given to me. You will give orders to establish, as soon as possible, the road from Sventsiany to Glubokoye, placing at each step an infantry detachment and a small detachment of cavalry, and assuring the posts there. The grand equerry will have the courier set on the road from Vilna to Sventsiany, and that from Sventsiany to Gloubokoie; however, this movement will be unmasked beyond Sventsiany only on the 14th, so that the relays' arrive at Postavy only on the 15th and at Gloubokoye on the 16th. I will be informed, day by day, of the progress of these columns on the two roads of Glubokoye, by Sventsiany and Mikhalichki. The small headquarters, with the following convoys, will arrive at Sventsiany on the 13th, and rest on the 14th, so that it may be on the 17th or 16th at Gloubokoye, if ordered. A staff officer will be appointed at once to go with General Lefebvre-Desnoëtles to Gloubokoie, whose command he will take. A squad of gendarmerie will be sent to maintain order on the rear of the body of the Duke of Treviso. We will put to the order of this body that we must walk[52]

52 dans tous les environs, afin de réunir de la farine, du blé, des fourrages et de la viande, et d'assurer la subsistance des, troupes. Une brigade de mon service lèser suivra le duc de Trévise et sera sous ses ordres, avec un détachement de ma Maison, pour établir mon quartier général à Gloubokolé. Le général Boguet aura également avec lui huit pièces d'artillerie. Vous donnerez l'ordre au duc de Danzig de faire partir demain pour Sventsiany la brigade de chasseurs à pied commandée par le général Curial, avec la batterie de huit pièces que j'ai attachée à cette brigade. Elle aura avec elle des vivres pour le 12, le 13, le 14, le 15, le 16, le 17 et le 18. La brigade de grenadiers à pied se tiendra prête à partir également pour Sventsiauy, le 13 à une heure du matin, ayant aussi des vivres pour les 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 et 19. La cavalerie de la Garde commencera son mouvement demain, 12, pour se porter sur Sventsiany; elle le continuera le 13. Un major de la Garde, avec 3 ou 400 chevaux, marchera avec le duc de Dantzig, Le général Sorbier aura ordre de me remettre l'état de ses convois, en me faisant connaître les lieux où ils doivent arriver chaque soir; les têtes de ces convois ne passeront point Sventsiany. Le général Eblé me remettra l'état de l'équipage de pont, en me faisant également connaître le lieu où il arrive chaque jour; il ne dépassera pas non plus Sventsiany. Le général Kirgener aura ordre de me remettre l'état du parc, et ne dépassera pas non plus Sventsiany. On dressera un tableau en règle de tout ce mouvement, et il me sera remis. Vous donnerez des ordres pour établir, le plus promptement possible, la route de Sventsiany à Gloubokolé, en mettant à chaque marche un détachement d'infanterie et un petit détachement de cavalerie, et en y assurant les postes. Le grand écuyer fera placer l'estafette sur la route de Vilna à Sventsiany, et sur celle de Sventsiany à Gloubokolé; cependant ce mouvement ne sera démasqué au delà de Sventsiany que le 14, de sorte que les relais 'n'arrivent à Postavy que le 15 et à Gloubokolé que le 16, Il me sera rendu compte, jour par jour, de la marche de ces colonnes sur les deux routes de Gloubokolé, par Sventsiany et Mikhalichki. Le petit quartier général, avec les convois qui sont à la suite, arrivera à Sventsiany le 13, et se reposera le 14, de manière à pouvoir être le 17' ou le 16 à Gloubokolé, s'il en reçoit l'ordre. Il sera nommé sur-le-champ un officier d'état-major pour se rendre avec le général Lefebvre-Desnoëtles à Gloubokolé, dont il prendra le commandement. Il sera envoyé une escouade de gendarmerie pour maintenir l'ordre sur les derrières du corps du duc de Trévise. On mettra à l'ordre de ce corps qu'on doit marcher

in order and not to plunder, and that the stragglers will be arrested and shot.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18948.- TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SMORGONI.

Vilna, July 11, 1812.

My son, I have not heard from you since the 9th. I have written to you, I have had you written by the Major General, and I repeat to you a third time that you must be diligently on Dokchitsy, with your infantry, your cavalry, and your artillery, and have furnaces built there. Until yesterday evening there was only one of your divisions at Ochmiana; this one will be the nearest to reach Dokchitsy, and your light cavalry will be able to win it. I have told you that your sappers, your pontooners, your furnace builders, must be sent diligently forward. General Colbert found in Vileika 2,000 quintals of flour, 30,000 to 40,000 rations of biscuit, and a large quantity of oats; it will be a wonderful help to us. The Prince of Eckmühl will have warned you about it, and you will no doubt have sent for it. I ordered General Saint-Cyr to pass, if necessary, by Vilna, to go on Dokchitsy by Lovarichki, Mikhaliehki, Kobylnik. I look forward to hearing from you and having some information on how soon you can be here. The prince of Eckmühl must now be master of Borisof. He will go on Orcha. It is probable that I will carry my headquarters to Gloubokoie, and that I will rally all my Guard there. I experienced great joy for you from this quantity of food found in Vileika.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

18949. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, VILNA.

Vilna, July 12, 1812.

Cousin, let the commander of the engineers know that he must take steps to organize the work of Kovno and Vilna. The old Vilna Bridge must be completed by the 20th, and the new piling bridge must be completed by the 18th. As soon as these two bridges are completed, the three bridges will be removed.[53]

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rafts, since they will become useless. The raft bridge which General Eble has thrown off being very well made, will be placed here, so that it may be thrown on any other point of the Viliya. Large vessels used on rafts will be sent to Kovno for food transport on Vilna. I expressly leave a Danube company and two sapper companies in Vilna for this purpose. The work of the entrenched camp must not be slowed down. The three redoubts will be continued, namely: one on the mountain, that of the center and that of the right. A half - sapper company will be attached to each of these redoubts; the men will sleep and roam on the spot itself. The commander of the place will have 300 garrison workers, who will be placed at the rate of 100 at each redoubt. In addition, 300 workers will be provided at each redoubt from among the inhabitants of the country, so that there will be 12 to 1300 men constantly employed in the work of the entrenched camp. It will be necessary for this to leave 2,000 tools; Soldiers and peasants also need to be paid.

In front of the old bridge there will be made a drum in fences, which will be connected to the convent and which will enclose the head of bridge, with the dispositions necessary to place there two pieces of 3, so that 100 to 200 men be there safe from a surprise. The regimental pieces will be placed in the convent. At the new bridge there will be made a drum in palisades having the same object. As soon as the three redoubts of the entrenched camp are half completed, the three others will be undertaken. It is necessary that before the 20 one undertakes the bridgehead. A portion of the stilt bridge crew will be brought from Kovno to activate the work on both bridges and be protected from ice. We will raise the road to two bridges and two bridges to redoubts, so that during the rains the roads are not gutted.

The Danube Company, after completing the two bridges, will be used to build blockhouses on the redoubt of the height, on that of the center and on that of the right, which are the three principal ones. These blockhouses must be very thick and contain about fifty men. As soon as the redoubts are finished, the artillery will conduct in each of them two pieces of cannon. There will be room for fifteen or twenty pieces, which will be placed by the corps which will be charged with defending the entrenched camp.

There will be on the height of the arsenal seven or eight pieces of cannon battery, and a half-squad of five or six gunners who will be responsible for reporting to the commander of the place of this[54]

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that they will see in the plain. The garrison will supply 100 men to the two bridges and 25 men to each redoubt, as soon as they are finished.

Send this order to the commander of the artillery at the same time as the commander of the engineers and the commander of Vilna.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war

18950. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 12, 1812.

Cousin, let the general of enginees know that I leave a company of marine workers and a company of sappers in Kovno; that the main operation must be to restore the piling bridges over the Niemen and the Viliya, to establish the fort projected on the height and the bridgehead of the Viliya, to establish a redoubt on the height of the left bank to defend the bridge, and to place in each of these two works two pieces of cannon. The commander of the place will supply 600 soldiers to be employed in this work, and 1,200 peasants, so that there are constantly about 2,000 workers. It is therefore necessary that there be a large amount of tools and that work be pushed so that in August they are completed, and that we are working on the construction of a blockhouse for 100 men. Send this order to the artillery general and the commander of Kovno.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18951. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 12, 1812.

Cousin, order the commander of Vilna not to do any chore to the three battalions of 3rd Corps that will garrison here, and use it for the service of the place. He will place one of these battalions in the convent on the right bank of the Viliya where was the Guard. My intention is that the garrison be placed in barracks and convents. There must be premises prepared to house 10,000 men. All the sickly men who arrive will be put to the deposits of their corps, and all the isolated men will be gathered in a convent. He is very decent[55]

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to leave nothing behind the army, because the road is not organized, and that these men would make unnecessary marches and counter-marches, and that the looting could not be prevented. All isolated men will therefore be arrested in Vilna; I will be given the status so that I can give the orders for their departure. Here we will give them the complete ration of bread and meat, the half ration which can neither feed nor satisfy the soldier. We must take care to bathe them; and that even after two days of rest they should be exercised and appropriated. At the moment of the departure of these men from Vilna, 50 cartridges will be given to each one.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

18952. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 12, 1812.

Cousin, let General Chasseloup know that General Campredon will be in charge of the siege of Riga; that the siege crew must therefore be under his orders; that this general will have to follow the instructions of the Duke of Taranto for the arrival of the crew at Tilsit and for the formation of the relays necessary for the transport. Order the Siege Crew of Danzig and the Artillery and Engineers in Konigsberg to leave these places for Tilsit, and the Generals of Arancey and Campredon to take steps to form wagon relays. This crew will remain embarked at Tilsit until the Duke of Taranto orders the disembarkation; which will only take place after I have passed the Dvina. Inform him of the Duke of Taranto, and let him know that it is necessary to establish relays of five leagues in five leagues. These relays must be at least 150 to 200 wagons, to gather in two weeks the means to start the siege and then to feed it.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18953. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 12, 1812.

Cousin, write to Prince Schwarzenberg that the black vanguard is on the Dvina; that the prince of Eckmühl, of Minsk, walks[56]

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on Borisof and Orcha; that the Viceroy march in the direction of Vitebsk; that the king of Westphalia is at Nesvije; that the Emperor will carry his headquarters to Glubokoye, that, if nothing threatens Warsaw in an urgent manner, I order him to go to Nesvije; that when he arrives he will act according to circumstances, either by sending parties to Pinsk, or by sending them to Bobruisk; that he will send you an officer to take a direction; that from the 20th to the 25th I will pass the Dvina.

You will let him know that we have shops in Minsk and other places; that the enemy appears united in his entrenched camp of Drissa; that Bagration wanted to go on Vilna, then on Minsk, and that he seems to be heading for Bobrouisk, but that we will be in Orcha and Mohilef before him.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18954. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA,

Vilna, July 12, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Rapp and General Daendels, ordering him to leave Danzig with the whole brigade of Baden, cavalry, infantry, and artillery, as soon as the head of the Lagrange division is near Danzig. General Daendels will proceed by the shortest route to Labiau, where he will find the brigade of Berg, and thus gather all his division, strong of twelve battalions and two regiments of cavalry with thirty pieces of cannon, Give order. to Major-General Lagrange to go to Danzig, where his division will remain in garrison until further notice. The battalions of Berg and Baden at the point of the Nehrung and at Marienburg will be replaced by other battalions of the garrison of Danzig, so that the Daendels division, with 8,000 men, infantry and cavalry, will be united at Labiau. Inform General Rapp that he can urge the departure of General Daendels, as soon as he thinks there is no appearance of danger, and that the head of Lagrange's division will be two steps from Danzig. Recommend to General Rapp to take care of our young conscripts of the Lagrange division, to make the service of the four foreign battalions serve, and to camp these young men by having them barrack on the heights, so that they can exercise and be in a better air, Recommend him especially not to place in Weichselmünde[57]

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and on the side of the bad air. You will make known this disposition to the Duke of Bellune, who will thus have a division at Labiau and two at Marienburg.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. It will consequently be necessary to order General Lagrange to go to Danzig, instead of Konigsberg.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18955. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna. July 12, 1812.

Cousin, order the general of artillery to bring 5000 rifles to Kovno and as many to Vilna, with carabiners and swords in proportion, to be able to arm French infantry. Order also the general of artillery to bring to Vilna the 30,900 rifles of the King of Saxony which are at Bromberg, the 5,000 carabiners and 8,000 swords which are at Danzig, and the 6,000 rifles existing at Pillau; which will make 36,900 rifles, 5,000 carabiners and 8,000 sabers for the arming of the insurrection. Order him to bring to Bromberg the 34,000 rifles of Magdeburg, the 31,000 of Wesel, and the 15,000 of Küstrin, and to announce to me when these 83,000 rifles arrive at Bromberg, that I may give them direction.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18956, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA,

Vilna. July 12, 1812,

My Cousin, order General Eble to send the crew of ten boats, which are available at Vilna, to leave tomorrow, and to place with these boats: all his personnel, except a company of pontooners, who will leave with the Piloni's crew, when he arrives, and another company he can leave to keep the rest of his equipment. Let him know that I need several deck crews; that all must come imperceptibly, whether with horses or with oxen; But[58]

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that it is necessary that from tomorrow all the personnel leave, because in the absence of pontoons I will use rafts and easels.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18957. - ORDER.

Vilna, July 12, 1812.

1st A raft bridge will be built at Olitta, a similar one at Grodno, and a third at Meretch.

2nd General Eble, commanding the deck crews, will assign a pontoon officer to proceed successively to these three places, beginning with Olitta, to direct the work of the bridge, which the local administrations will have done by the country's workmen.

3rd The Major General is responsible for the execution of this order,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18958. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 13, 1812.

My cousin, order General Kirgener with all his engineers and deck crew, and General Sorbier with his artillery park to go from Sventsiany to Postavy and Glubokoye. Organize the road from Sventsiuny to Gloubokoye, sending detachments from headquarters to each station. Also send on this route two gendarmerie squads and three of the elite gendarmerie to police and maintain the good use of the resources of the country,

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Write to the Duke of Treviso to let the artillery go as it pleased, when it should arrive one or two days later; it is better to see him lose horses.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18959, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 14, 1812.

My Cousin, order General Saint-Cyr to send[59]

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tomorrow, at break of day, his four regiments of light cavalry with a light battery of artillery well harnessed, under the orders of the brigadier-general who commands them. These regiments will go, marching as fast as they can, by Mikhalichki on Glubokoye, where they will support General Lefebvre, who is there with 1,000 horses of the Guard. The Brigadier General will send an aide-de-camp to instruct General Lefebvre on his arrival. They will push in every direction, and will be able to take many things to the enemy, who evacuates his stores with the greatest activity.

Make known to the Duke of Treviso the order I give General Saint-Cyr, and inform him that General Saint-Cyr comes behind him. That he give orders to General Lefebvre, as soon as these 2,000 men of cavalry have arrived, to push on Loujki, by putting forward the Bavarians, and keeping my Guard in reserve, putting at the head of Polish light horse only; to push the roads of Disna, Polotsk, and Vitebsk, to collect information and gather all the stores, and to make frequent reports on what is happening. You will order General Saint-Cyr that, if the light artillery causes delays in the march, he will have 50 horses left to escort him, and that the rest of the cavalry will continue with the greatest diligence, because There are very good things to be done, and the taking of the stores of the enemy will be precious to us in the circumstance in which we find ourselves for food. You will instruct the Duke of Treviso to let you know when all this will happen to Glubokoye.

You will make known to General Lefebvre that General Nansouty has orders to illuminate with his body the outlets of Disna.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18960. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILEIKA.

Vilna. July 14, 1812. Eight o'clock in the evening.

My son, the prince of Eckmühl arrived at Borisof. The king of Westphalia is in Nesvije. Food and munitions stores were taken in Borisof. General Colbert claims that he has seized stores in Dokchitsy; General Lefebvre-Desnoettes, with 1,000 horses of the Guard, goes to Glubokoye; I believe that tomorrow it will be very near to arrive there. I have it supported by all the light Bavarian cavalry, which is now passing through Vilna and[60]

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in Lovarichki. I order him to take the lead. It is believed that he will have many shops to take on the road to Polotsk, Disna, etc. Have the roads of Vitebsk and Orcha recognized, and order supplies in both directions.

I suppose the staff sent you Vilna newspapers to spread among the inhabitants.

On the 17th, I will have my headquarters at Sventsiany, and I will be on the 17th at night or on the 18th at Gloubokoie.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

18961. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDNT THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, BORISOF.

Vilna, July 14, 1812, eight o'clock in the evening.

Cousin, I receive your three letters; the last is on the 13th, at three o'clock in the afternoon. I see with pleasure that you have occupied Borisof. I received a letter from the King of Westphalia on the 13th. He was not yet at Nesvije. His headquarters was in Mir. The enemy appears to be in his entrenched camp of Drissa. I do not plan to spend the Dvina before the 20th or the 22nd.

Know then tell me the names of the infantry divisions that Bagration has with him.

NAPOLEON.

From the original Comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

18962. - REPLY OF THE EMPEROR TO THE MEMBERS OF THE POLISH CONFEDERATION.

Vilna, July 14, 1812.

Members of the Confederation of Poland, I have heard with interest what you have just told me.

Polish, I would think and act like you; I would have voted like you in the assembly of Warsaw: the love of the country is the first virtue of civilized man.

In my position, I have many interests to reconcile and many duties to fulfill. If I had reigned in the first, second or third division of Poland, I would have armed all my people to support you.

As soon as victory allowed me to restore your old laws to your capital and to a part of your provinces, I did it with[61]

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eagerness, without, however, prolonging a war which would have made the blood of my subjects still run.

I love your nation; for sixteen years I have seen your soldiers by my side, on the fields of Italy as well as those of Spain.

I applaud all that you have done; I authorize the efforts you want to make; everything that will depend on me to second your resolutions I will do it.

If your efforts are unanimous, you can conceive the hope of reducing your enemies to recognize your rights. But in those countries so remote and so vast, it is above all on the unanimity of the efforts of the people who cover them that you must base your hopes of success.

I spoke the same language during my first appearance in Poland. I must add here that I have guaranteed to the Emperor of Austria the integrity of his States, and that I can not authorize any maneuver or movement which would tend to disturb him in the peaceful possession of what remains of the Polish provinces.

May Lithuania, Samogitia, Vitebsk, Polotsk, Mohilef, Volhynia, Ukraine, Podolia, be animated with the same spirit that I have seen in Greater Poland, and Providence will crown by success the sanctity of your cause; it will reward this devotion to your country, which has made you so interesting, and has given you so many rights to my esteem and protection, upon which you must rely in the circumstances.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of July 28, 1812.

18963. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM; MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Villla, July 15, 1812.

Cousin, send an officer to the Duke de Remio. You will let him know that I do not approve of the movement he has made on Vezoros; that, indeed, if the enemy is in force at Dinabourg, it is exposing himself to being attacked by the whole army, to be enveloped by very superior forces, and to suffer heavy losses; that, if the enemy is not at Dinabourg, it is to thwart my operations; that Soloki, being two days' march from Dinabourg, is already near enough to this place; that it is sufficient to have cavalry and some voltigeurs at Yezoros; that my intention is to maneuver on the top of the Dvina; that I will have my headquarters at Sventsiany on the 17th and

1) Today Novo-Alexandrovsky.[62]

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at Gloubokoye; that he must receive the orders of the King of Naples, as well as the Duke of Elchingen; that I suppose he will already be at Dryswiaty and the Duke of Elchingen on Braslaf; that it is my intention that the 3rd and 2nd corps, as well as the three divisions of the 1st Corps under the King's command, may occupy a position which holds the entrenched camp of Drissa in abeyance, maintaining our communications with Disna; that I will pass from the 20th to the 25th between Disna and Polotsk, that the Prince of Eckmuhl has seized Borisof's place; that he found there sixteen pieces of siege: that he removed to the enemy, to Kholoui, a park of two hundred wagons, of which eighteen cannon and sixty thousand powder; that he has taken prisoners 200 gunners, 3 to 400 carters, and that 600 draft horses have fallen into his power; that the king of Westphalia is at Nesvije and marches on Slutsk; that he had with the enemy very active rear-guard affairs, under the command of General Latour-Maubourg; that the Cossack general Gregorief was killed there, and that Bagration withdraws to Bobrouisk; that the viceroy, the 4th corps and the 6th arrive at Dokchitsy, that all the Guard march on Gloubokoie: that the Emperor does not attempt to attack the enemy either in his entrenched camp of Dinabourg or in his entrenched camp of Drissa; that he will turn his positions, render them all useless, and attack him by marching, that, as His Majesty will be far away, it is necessary that he should receive the orders of the King of Naples, and execute them punctually.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18964. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 16, 1812.

Cousin, you can send your letter to the King of Westphalia, Write to the King that it is necessary to leave the world to Nesvije to watch what the enemy does on the side of Pinsk, until Prince Schwarzenberg there arrived with his corps. Press Prince Schwarzenberg to arrive in this position.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18965. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VILNA.

Vilna, July 16, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Taranto that you receive his letter[63]

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on the 14th, that his first convoy of three hundred wagons had already arrived, and that the wagons had been turned over with the greatest care so that he could continue his dispatches. You will inform him that the Prince of Eckmuhl has entered Borisof, that he has seized sixteen pieces of cannon and sixty thousand powder, and that he marches on Igoumen to fall on the flank of Bagration, which goes to Bobrouisk; that the 5th corps overtook Nesvije, pursuing the rearguard of Bagration; that General Reynier with the 7th corps is at Kletsk, that Prince Schwarzenberg is on Nesvije; that my headquarters will be at Gloubokoie; that I intend to spend the Dvina from the 20th to the 25th.

You will tell him that I have nothing to add to the instructions he has received; that it is not at Dinabourg that the enemy army has assembled, but at Drissa, where it has a bridgehead of 3 leagues of turn; that all the enemy forces are on the top of the Dvina; that all the information assures that there is nothing on your side but the garrison of Riga.

You will let him know that I wish him to have a division at a march from Dinabourg, in order to keep the garrison of this town in check, and to make him fear to be cut off if he throws himself a little into the country; that the Duke de Reggio, who had made inquiries on Dinabourg, went up three steps to the right; that it is therefore proper that he should contain this garrison; that the Emperor intends to cross the Dvina between Disna and Vitebsk, which will oblige the enemy to do one of the following two operations: or to evacuate his entrenched camp of Drissa to cover Petersburg, or to come out of Drissa to fall on the army corps in front of him; that in the latter case there would be a battle; that it is therefore proper for him to take a position, with a strong division of 8 or 9,000 men, before Dinabourg, to keep the garrison in check, and that by this means he will be informed sooner of the outcome of the events; that if there is a battle and the enemy loses it, or if he evacuates his entrenched camp without battle and goes to Petersburg, the Duke of Taranto will be able to cross the Dvina at the most favorable point between Riga and Dinabourg; that, if the localities allow it, perhaps it would be convenient to pass this river to a march of Dinabourg, in order to be more quickly in communication with us and to receive orders, either to surround Riga, or to undertake some the siege, either to divide itself, and to go partly to Dinabourg, and partly to Riga, in the corps of observation, according to the news which one will have of the force of the enemy and the events which will have happened; that if there was a battle and we lost it, its position near[64]

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Dinabourg would also be advantageous, since it would prevent the garrison of Dinabourg from doing anything, and could protect our left flank; that there are from Dinabourg to Jacobstadt three steps, and from Dinabourg to Friedrichstadt five steps; that thus, by holding a strong vanguard to a day of Dinabourg, having posts on the river, having on the side of Friedrischtadt against Riga, he would find himself occupying all the left bank from Dinabourg to a few leagues from Riga and that he would build the rafts necessary to pass the Dvina to a day of Dinabourg; that in this position he would thus fulfill the object of covering the Niemen, of protecting the country, of containing the garrisons of Dinabourg and Riga, and of threatening the passage; that during all this interval he would be very near to communicate with us, and could throw his bridge, from the 24th to the 25th, between Jacobstadt and Dinabourg, as soon as he knew the outcome of the events; that the Emperor thinks that, in his person, he should stand near Dinabourg, as more within reach to have news and to take the position that circumstances will require; that, if this letter were already on the march for Jacobstadt or Friedrichstadt, that would not disturb him at all, since your letter does not depart from his first instruction; that, however, this can only be considered as a general instruction for the purpose which it has to fulfill, in view of the distance in which we find ourselves.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18966. - TO MARSHAL OUDINOT, DUKE OF REGGIO, COMMANDING THE 2nd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT DRYSVIATY (1).

Vilna. July 16, 1812.

The Emperor, Monsieur le Duke, saw with astonishment and anger that, without order, you went to Dinabourg. If you assumed that the Russian army was there, you would expose your army corps without reason. If you had data that the Russian army was not there, your march is still blameworthy: you expose your right, which could be attacked by the Russian army troops who are in the Drissa camp. The Emperor had ordered you to go to Soloki. His Majesty, believing you in this position, could send you orders, and instead of you

find it, you were two steps away. So you made a false goalless move. The Emperor knew well that there was a stronghold in Dinabourg,

1) This letter was written by the Major General at the dictation of the Emperor.[65]

which the Russians have been working for four to five years. I have informed you, Monsieur le Duke, that you were under the orders of the King of Naples. The Emperor assumes that you have taken the prescribed positions. You have much annoyed the Emperor by your movement on Dinabourg. His Majesty tells me that he hopes it will not happen again.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18967. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KOSTENEVICHI.

Vilna, July 16, 1812, ten o'clock in the evening.

My Son, I have written to you here by your ordinary way; I am writing to you today by Gloubokoie. I will be tomorrow at five o'clock in the morning at Suentsiauy. It seems that the enemy makes movements. Go on Gloubokoie. I wrote to you yesterday to send an officer to the King of Naples, who is at Belmont near Braslaf. Correspond with me by the pickets of the Guards who are from Sventsiany to Gloubokoye.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18968. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDANT THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN IGOUMEN.

Vilna, July 16, 1812, ten o'clock in the evening.

Cousin, I have not heard from you since the 13th. I will be at Svantesiany at six o'clock in the morning, and, according to circumstances, I will go to the outposts of the King of Naples, who are on Braslaf, or snr Glonbokoïé. The Viceroy is at Dokchitsy; he is on Gloubokoie. I do not need to recommend you to be careful and to correspond by Dokehitsy with the Viceroy and with me. Make sure Bagration does not overflow you, and do not bake yourself badly in the Bobrouisk marshes. Prince Schwarzenberg has orders to go to Nesvije. Do not even go too fast on Orcha, until you know news of what will have happened on our side, where the business will take a color in a few days.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.[66]

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18969. - TO MARSHAL BESSIERES, DUKE OF ISTRLE,
COMMANDING THE IMPERIAL GUARD, IN LOUJKI.

Vilna, July 16, 1812.

Cousin, I'm leaving right now. I will be at five o'clock in Sventsianv, let me hear from you before nine o'clock. The letters by the correspondence of the Guard must go very quickly. Send an officer to the King of Naples at Belmont, and put some relays to communicate with him. This letter will join you to Loujki. If so, stay there tomorrow. Have General Kirgener, the small headquarters, and General Sorbier do the same, until I can give orders from Sventsiany. General Curial can also stop. The Bavarians must join you tomorrow in the position where you are. Send the attached letter to the Viceroy. Always build the kilns at Gloubokoye.

You will easily understand what you have to do, when you will know that on the morning of the 15th, the enemy attacked the cavalry of the Sebastiani division, and that the King of Naples takes up position at Ikazni with the 2nd, 3rd corps, and part of the 1st and all his cavalry. He will probably have written to you directly. My intention is to aim at him from all points, if the attacked enemy is confirmed. Let me know the route that you, the Duke of Treviso, General Curial, the Bavarians, General Sorbier and General Kirgener can take from the respective position where you will be tomorrow at noon, to direct you right to the King of Naples. Tell the Viceroy that he must correspond with me by the pickets of the Guard. I suppose you have news of General Lefebvre-Desnoëttes, who has gone ahead. Direct it to the left, in order to concentrate all our forces if the enemy attacks, If tomorrow, arrived at Svenlsiany, I find that it is a false alarm, I will continue my movement on Gloubokoie; but a day of rest can not be inconvenient; this will give the Bavarians time to arrive. You will prevent General Saint-Cyr from hurrying a little to reach your height.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18970. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AT VILNA.

Sventsiauy, July 17, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I arrived in Sveutsiauy at ten o'clock in the morning. I leave that night for Gloubokoie. The bridges that[67]

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the enemy had thrown out and the little movements that followed had not followed.

Tell the authorizing officer who stayed that all the convoys on Glubokoye are being sent by the road of Mikhalichki, which is much shorter.

Send some agents from the country to see what is going on in Nesvije, Pinsk, Bobruisk.

Write a little letter every day to the Archchancellor and the Minister of Police, so that there is no anxiety in Paris. The courier line of the courier comes from Vilna to Gloubokoye by Sventsiany; so I expect that you will send me my orderly officer, that you will write to me by all the courier what happens again in the place and news of Warsaw.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives

18971. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AT VILNA.

Gloubokoïé. July 18, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I arrived at Gloubokoie. General Grouchy took from Colonel Staroi-Lepel, 10 officers, 200 miners, and quite considerable stores. There is an immense quantity of salt in Borisof; it would be convenient to supply the population. Bring that with the government. The country of Vilna at Svenlsiany is horrible; but from Svenlsiany to Glubokoye he is superb; there are no forests and the crops are beautiful. General Colbert, who is already in Tolotchine, says that it seemed to him that the mind was changed and that they were no longer Poles; let me know what is said about it in Vilna. It is necessary that in the directions of Orcha and Mohilef Polish commissioners are sent with proclamations. No printed matter has been sent to the country. I would like you to print 6,000 copies of the proclamation to the Poles to desert (1) them, and to the same number

1) The General Confederation of the Kingdom of Poland to the Poles retained in the civil or military service of Russia.

COMPATRIOTS!

The country has recovered! and with a click, for the same moment, all the duties that bind you to her; these duties which you have contracted at birth, resume their vigor. Are there any older and more sacred ones? Take a look at the glories of the world, at the immortal examples of the ancestors, on the facts[68]

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the main plays that the Vilna newspapers published on Confederation. The first 250 copies will be sent to the General Staff; the second 250 to the Prince of Eckmühl, by

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recent of your brothers; bear your eyes in the depths of your hearts, and if they are still Polish. they will tell you that, if there is no glory equal to that of living and dying for the fatherland, there is no crime or reproach like that of serving against her, of joining to those who tore it up and flooded it with your blood.

Polish! Do you feel the most painful of all the blows, that shame you want to throw at your race? Look at what corner are these marks made to be worn! What are those flags that float on your heads are dyed! The barbarians alone could conceive this atrocious idea that you would be able to consider as a blessing the dreadful privilege of serving those of whom you were the conquerors and masters, the permission to spread to them the remains of a blood that they do not know. have been able to fully exhaust and in which they have already been too much bathed.

As long as the homeland did not exist, they could be tolerated, these links formed by necessity, by violence or by the care of avoiding the watchful eye of the despot. There is certainly no Pole sufficiently degenerate to carry them voluntarily; they were never strong enough to break with them; today, they are already broken, they no longer exist.

The country takes back its rights and will exercise them in all their extent; There is no longer any need for deliberation or choice: it must be obeyed or deaf to one's voice, and henceforth it will have to count only faithful children or traitors.

O beloved homeland of Poles! No, you will not feel the height of ignominy that your sons are perjured, that they abandon you and that, strayed by the sacrilegious language of the oppressors, they can call their services a bond of honor! Eh! would he have to plunge a parricide iron into his mother's womb?

Bravery is honorable only when the cause to which it is consecrated is that of honor, and fidelity is a virtue only when it protects those sacred duties which nature and the country have etched in our hearts. indelible characters.

Indulge yourself to this indignation, to that horror which must inspire you all that comes from those who have sworn your ruin. Do not delay in pronouncing and you will make your tyrants tremble. Descendants of so many illustrious patriots, quit these marks which debase you, throw this parricide iron, and, animated by a just revenge, join us and turn it against your oppressors to punish them with so much violence and outrage. One is never more ready in the eyes of the country than when one presents oneself covered with the absence of one's enemies. Come, follow in the footsteps of those virtuous compatriots who, before the age of eighteen, as soon as they heard the cry of the fatherland, did not hesitate to break their chains, and came to his help, emerging, by trampling on the corpses of those same slaves who claim to be able to restrain you today.

What a better career could be offered to you than the one in which you find yourself together? It is the brothers who, after making the Polish name sound all over the world, believe all their labors rewarded, since they are allowed to offer you a homeland to invite you to fight for her! This is the truth.[69]

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Minsk; the third 250 years Prince Poniatowski; the following 250 to the Duke of Taranto; the following 250 to the Duke of Reggio; lastly, to the Duke of Elchingen, the King of Naples, and the Viceroy, the first two thousand. The second two thousand will be distributed in the same way as the first two. The Polish administration must also send them in all directions.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

18972. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT DOKCHITSV.

Gloubokoye, July 18, 1812, five o'clock in the evening.

My Son, today I arrived at Gloubokoye, where all the Guard meets. General Grouchy tells me that he has taken stores at Staroi-Lepel: he took 750 sacks of flour and 327 barrels of biscuit. I approve the direction of part of your cavalry on the Berezina. I think I should not be long in receiving news of your arrival at Dokchitsy. Your first care will undoubtedly have been to put communication posts on the road to Gloubokoie.

On the 11th, 15th and 16th, a large quantity of convoys arrived at Vilna, making the value of about 2,000 quintals of flour,

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field of honor and duty; it is here that real Poles want to shed their blood for a real Poland, here under the eyes of the greatest of heroes, of the most generous protector, here, next to the first army of the first people of the world, here finally the midst of all the civilized nations who marched to secure themselves once against the irruptions of the barbarians.

Come, then, the country calls you! Your brothers hold out their arms; our hearts, our temples and our sanctuaries are open for you. Come! that the greatest sovereign, that all Europe can applaud this devotion, this patriotic zeal which admits neither bounds, nor care, nor reserve: that this country so proud of the attachment of its children, who you now smiles with tenderness, does not see the dawn of her new life darkened, nor is she compelled to be severe and inexorable towards those who, led astray by the most criminal blindness, would have the impudence to deny it.

Done at the sitting of the General Council of the General Confederation at Warsaw, under Articles VI and VII of the Act of the said Confederation, July 7th, 1812.

The Marshal of the Dictate and the General Confederation of Poland.
ADAM CZARTORVSKI
Secretary of the General Confederation,
Capitan Kozmian.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives[70]

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for your army. Send in front of these convoys so that they do not go astray.

The 6th corps should arrive today at Gloubokoie; yet we have no new ones. As they are Bavarians, who walk slowly, maybe instead of five days they will put one more day.

I am waiting every moment for news from the King of Naples. I have not since the evening of the 16th.

Everything leads me to think, though without being sure, that the enemy is on Polotsk so as not to be cut off from St. Petersburg. However, there is no harm in placing some of your light cavalry on this side. As for the rest of your cavalry and your three divisions, they will spend the day resting, and I will send you orders tomorrow before six o'clock in the morning. If you did not receive it, you would place your three divisions a few leagues ahead on the way to Gloubokoye.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

l8973. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT DOKCHITSY.

Gloubokoye, July 18, 1812, nine o'clock in the evening.

My Son, I receive your letter from the 18th at noon. I do not understand how it happened to me until seven o'clock. We are not far, however, more than two hours. I wrote to you at five o'clock. I have not yet heard from the King of Naples; but new information leads me to think that the enemy is on Vitebsk by the right bank. I approve that you lead your cavalry on the roads of Vitebsk and Polotsk, push it to Kamen and to Botcheikovo Bridge on the Oulla River, push the one on the left to Ouchateh. But let them go cautiously. General Lefebvre-Desnoettes, with the Cavalry of the Guard, occupies Loujki. Your light cavalry will make you food and bring you news. Get together all your infantry tomorrow at Dokchitsy; place one division on the road to Polotsk, and the other on Vitebsk: as I will have you on either road, that road will be the vanguard. Everything leads me to think that I will make you walk by the road to Vitebsk. It is very important that your sailors, your sappers, your pontooners are in the lead. It will be very possible that I charge you to cross the river at Biechenkovitc.[71]

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there is a favorable return. Put connecting posts on the road, so that we can communicate quickly in two hours.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18974. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT DOKCHITSY.

Gloubokoye, July 19, 1812, three o'clock in the morning.

My Son, I receive news of the King of Naples. It seems decidedly that the Russians have abandoned their entrenched camp at Drissa, and that they retire with all speed to Polotsk, evacuating their baggage by the road to St. Petersburg. That being the case, it would be convenient for you to go to Kamen. All the corps of the left are on Disna: the corps of General Nansouty must be there today; he goes to Polotsk, so that your left flank will be well assured. As soon as you are sure that General Nansouty has intercepted the road to Polotsk, you must assemble your light cavalry on Kamen. Put in some light artillery and voltigeurs, to have a good avant-garde. General Grouchy is at Bobr; let him know about your movement. By this movement you will flank his left.

NAPOLEON

P. S. Start the movement of even infantry on Kamen; if you have two roads, take the shorter one. I will write to you again in three hours from here.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18975. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT DOKCHITSY.

Gloubokoye, July 19, 1812, half-past six in the morning.

My Son, I wrote to you at three o'clock in the morning. I just got some fresh news from Drissa. The enemy abandoned his entrenched camp, leaving his books, the fruit of nine months of work. It appears, as it seems, in all haste the river by the right bank; it is therefore essential that you walk with the most able division to support your vanguard. I suppose your light cavalry will have positions in Kamen tonight and will be reunited tomorrow.[72]

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Be tomorrow your person in Pychno. The other two infantry divisions can follow half a march from each other. Arrive as soon as possible with your first division in Kamen, in order to be able to push positions on Biechenkovilchi. The cavalry of Count Nansouty, which goes up the river on the left bank, will join you at about the same time. Your movement is important, to cover General Grouchy's right. The light Bavarian cavalry is expected here this morning; I will direct it immediately on Ushatch. I will let you know how it works, so that you send him orders. These four brigades united with the Guard will make you nearly 5,000 cavalry men. The Bavarians must have with them a battery of light artillery; if you add to this one or two light artillery batteries and 1,200 infantrymen of the best walkers, it will be a very respectable vanguard, which may very well be detached at seven or eight o'clock before your army corps.

I have no news of the Bavarian corps; but it seems to me that the day of tomorrow can not happen without them arriving. They will always be in time to arrive at your reserve.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Take care to place correspondence posts, which you will order to have horses, so that your correspondence is very fast, and that you can send me your reports at the rate of two leagues per hour; if they did not find horses, they would provide their own horses.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18976. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AT VILNA.

Gloubokoye, July 19, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, the enemy evacuated his entrenched camp of Drissa and burned all his bridges and an immense quantity of stores, sacrificing works and supplies which had been the object of his care for several months. It seems that it was the movements on Vitebsk and on the Dnieper that decided it for this evacuation. I would like you to send a letter to the Duke de Tarente, who is in Samogitia, to officially inform him of this news and urge him to go on the Dvina, between Dinabourg and Jacohstadt, in accordance with his instructions, in order to build a bridge.[73]

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on this river. You will use for mail a man of the country, which in no case would be compromised. Also send a courier from the country to Prince Eckmühl to announce this news, adding that the Viceroy is marching on Kamen, but that the Russians have begun their retreat from Drissa on the 16th; so that he must walk well lit on his left. You will direct this mail by Minsk, Igoumen and Berezino. Send this news to the King of Westphalia and Prince Poniatowski as well, in order to press their movement.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

18977. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIE.

Glouhokoie, July 19, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to General Nansouty, who must be at Disna, to send Bruyere's division to Polotsk, and to set out to support it. That he give orders to Morand's division to proceed with all due diligence to Disna. Recommend to him to put cavalry posts from Polotsk to Disna, in order to correspond quickly with us.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war

18978. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT DOKCHITSY.

Gloubokoïe, July 19, 1812

My Son, I want you to send me the sketch of the road that you have followed since Vilna, by letting me know which is the best to follow, the strength of the villages, the nature of the country, the rivers and bridges by which we must pass them. This is extremely necessary to me.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18879. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT DOKCHITSY.

Gloubokoye, July 19, 1812.

My Son, you have asked the Prince of Neuchatel what you must do with your sick and sickly. I think you have to[74]

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choose a convent on the road, centralize them all, leaving a doctor and a few employees. If in the place where you are there is a convent, put them there; it is better to choose this place as district chief town. You will inform the major general, the governor of the province where this hospital will be, and the intendant what you have done.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18880, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT DOKCHITSV.

Gloubokoye, July 19, 1812, in the evening.

My Son, an officer coming from the King of Naples, continues his journey to join you. Bavarian Light Cavalry has arrived here today; she leaves tomorrow for Ushatch; he will thus flank your left; I will have it supported by the Duke of Istria, the Guard on Horseback, and the Guard on Foot. However, I am not yet entirely decided on the movement of the Guard; I am awaiting a new despatch from the King of Naples.

Send me the details of the route you are making, the distances, the beauty and nature of the country; because we have bad maps.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18981. - TO THE COUNT COLLIN DE SUSSY,
MINISTER OF MANUFACTURES AND COMMERCE, PARIS.

Gloubokoye, July 19, 1812.

Count de Sussy, I receive your letter of July 16th. I see with pleasure that the hard times have passed; it is a cruel experience we have made there; I owe it in part to the false information given to me by the Ministry of the Interior. If I had listened to his offices, I would still have delayed defending the export of wheat, and we would no longer have been masters of the crisis. So it is very interesting that you take steps to be literate about resources, to know when to allow or defend the export. This is for the future; for, for the next two years, the harvests would be of an unheard-of abundance, we would need them to rebuild our stores.

A second object that deserves your concern is integrity[75]

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of the reserve: this was again poorly conducted by the offices of the Ministry of the Interior. The crassest ignorance presided over all these affairs, so that I arrived in the crisis without having my stores filled. It is time to put things in order, and the reserve should be increased to 500,000 quintals without missing anything. It will take prudence and time to complete this reservation.

My intention is also to employ some twenty millions to have shops in Orleans, Cambrai and near all the major cities of France. This 20 millions, at 10 francs the quintal, would make 2 millions quintals. By making these purchases prudently and in good years, one must have the quintal at 10 to 12 francs, and I will then be safe from any anxiety.

Two years before that terrible year, I had ordered this measure; but the Minister of the Interior had done nothing; and finally, when it was started, the bad year arrived.

It falls within your attributions and it is appropriate that the war be also supplied always for a year, taking care to make this supply in the good years.

Finally, I ordered for many years the construction of a store of abundance on the side of Arsenal, and I do not know by what fatality this construction advances so slowly. It's not the funds that are missing; because funds made for one year have always been used for two. I want you to see the Minister of the Interior, so that we can press the work and let me know if it would not be possible to finish them within a year. The Arc de Triomphe, the bridge of Jena, the Temple of Glory, the slaughterhouses, can be delayed for two or three years without inconvenience, whereas it is of the greatest importance that this store of plenty is completed.

I ordered the Intendant General of the Crown to build at Saint-Maur mills and magazines on behalf of the extraordinary estate; these constructions should not be still in the land of chimeras; money will be given in abundance. See the Duke of Cadore and Costaz; Let us work hard this year and take steps to have great results in the next campaign.

It must not be forgotten that there is no space near Paris for the large quantity of supplies to be collected.

It may also be necessary to do research to find out where we can find all-rail stores. My principle is that each large municipality must have[76]

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stores capable of feeding it for three months, but these stores must be formed only in times of plenty.

Regardless of this, I want to have several department stores on the main arteries, which offer the advantage of having wheat bought when they are cheap and to raise prices to support agriculture, or to sell them for sale. to lower the prices when they are too expensive.

I dictated many notes on it, even from Mr. Cretot's time. This must be in the minutes of the boards of directors; do you put all this in front of you?

As for the general organization, it is a very great affair.

Perhaps it would be advisable to keep the current directory, but as a center of administration, and a council of subsistence, in order to always be able to bring together people who have tradition and principles.

But what I think was bad was the direct purchases the administration made. I do not see what forced the administration to make direct purchases, and why it did not contract to trade. It is obvious that agents who can buy at any price will increase the markets, and that it will introduce great dilapidations in these aehats. But why, for example, would the Directory not pass markets whose execution it would only have to supervise and the payments made? That's about what you did for Normandy. Besides, this matter is so complicated, that it is not indifferent to have there a disinterested, severe and probity man, who can constantly take care of it.

I have a director of customs; he has never come in his head to have the goods seized carried out by a public authority; but it is by passing a contract that he provides this service; but if the director of provisions did so. perhaps one would reap the benefits of two systems. This deserves discussion and consideration.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.

18982. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO. MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AT VILNA.

Gloubokoye, July 20, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I do not understand why Mr. Tyzenhaus was not placed in the Government Committee;[77]

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it is said that this rich proprietor is very much an enemy of the Russians, and very much heard. Do some research on it. I send you two intercepted ukases, you will see that five out of every hundred men are raised in the Vitebsk governments - Mohilef, Livonia, & c. It would be very important that the Polish levies be done without delay. I had been promised five infantry regiments of three battalions and three regiments of cavalry; did I name the colonels? and did they choose great landowners who could make great sacrifices for such a levy, or did they only take people without credit? I think it would be necessary to name owners of a great influence, like the one I have just indicated to you. It will be necessary to gather the recruits at Minsk Kovno and Vilna, and to organize the regiments as quickly as possible. Rifles will soon arrive. It is very important that, as the army advances, it should be possible to assemble in its rear a corps of about fifteen thousand men, which will guarantee the country and all the points that one wishes against the invasions of the Cossacks. Take care of this seriously, and give your instructions to Monsieur Bignon; it is a main object. They had made me hope for battalions of game-keepers, to be formed in the marshes of Pinsk, on the Boryslhenes, and on the Dvina; it would be very advantageous for me to have these battalions, which would enlighten the country.

Here is the military news: We entered Orcha, where we found huge stores. We passed the Borysthenes, and we ran after a convoy of one hundred and thirty pieces of cannon, which retreated to Smolensk. We must be in Mohilef now. Bagration could not win Bobrouisk; he was forced to pass lower. The entrenched camp of Drissa was evacuated. All this news can be said summarily; send them by couriers from the country to the Duke of Taranto, General Reynier, Prince Schwarzenberg, Nesvije, and Warsaw.

It is proper that the commission of government should make an address to the provinces of Mohilef, Vitebsk, and Polotsk, and send a deputy to each of these provinces; especially that we send a lot of prints of the diet of Warsaw and all that has been done. These people are slow and seem to have no money; make up for all that. Set the salary of Mr. Bignon, who will be paid on the funds of your department; it will be the same as the one he had in Warsaw; he must have a suitable house. Give as much movement as possible to all this.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[78]

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18983. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIÉ.

Gloubokoïé. July 20, 1812.

My cousin, order the general headquarters to leave Vilna on the 22nd or the 28th, under the escort of three marching battalions of the young guard, the three battalions of the 3rd corps, and the battalions of men to any body whatsoever, well armed and well equipped, and finally regiments of march that would be in Vilna. We will add eighteen or twenty-four pieces of the Guard's cannon, served by the reserve of General Pellegrin, and we will take advantage of this opportunity to send all the convoys that would be in Vilna loaded with flour, bread and biscuit. This convoy in good standing will come in seven days to Gloubokoye, through Lovarichki and Mikhalichki. It will be distributed from Vilna eight days of bread to everyone. The bakers of the Guard, the builders of ovens that would have remained, will leave with the Guard, as well as the company of the Danube workers and what would remain of the deck crew. You will order that it be built at Mikhalichki two ovens and at Dounilovichi two ovens, so that one can regularly give Bread by the way: Have commanders of weapons, posts with horses, and small garrisons in all the houses. While the ovens are built, we will give bread to Vilna for eight days. measures for the meat to be distributed in Vilna for two days, and in all the two-day staging places one. You will be careful to plot the best road, the best repaired, and to load an inspector of take care of it repair and maintenance.

From now on all the men who belong to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th corps and the Guard will also go to Gloubokoie, All the convoys will follow this direction. You will order that it be chosen on the road two convents or great premises for the ambulances, that it is prepared to Glouhokoïé premises for 1,200 patients, and that it is established a small depot for 1 million cartridges and 10,000 rounds 1,000 rifles, and that the artillery general sends these objects here to my central depot.

There will be at Gloubokoie a general officer as commander of several districts, with a garrison of 500 men. Regardless of the kilns that are built, have twelve more built in the garden of the convent that I live. Order that there be left here a commissioner of wars and heads of administration; it[79]

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choose a room to form a food store near the convent.

Order that the district be required to produce 10,000 quintals of flour at the rate of 1,000 quintals a day, 25,000 pints of brandy, as much beer, 100,000 bushels of oats and fodder, on account of the contributions, so that there is here a central store where, in the event of an event, I can find some resources for the army. If necessary, the requisitions will be extended to some neighboring districts. These stores will be placed near the convent. The twelve furnaces to be built will be by a detachment of furnace builders who arrive from Vilna. It is essential that these twelve new ovens be built within ten days.

Independently of the bread necessary for the passage of the troops, bakers will be left here and local women will be taken to help them, so that the ovens can make 30 to 36,000 rations of bread. It is necessary to have in seven or eight days 100,000 rations of biscuit bread.

It will be established near Glouhokoie, in a place where oats and fodder can easily be obtained, a cavalry depot, but not more than 8 or 9 leagues from here. You will appoint a senior cavalry officer to order this deposit. All the horses with the corps of Generals Montbrun and Nansouty, the cavalry of the 2nd and 3rd Corps and the Guard, will be directed to this depot.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

18984. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIÉ.

Gloubokoye, July 20, 1812.

Cousin, write to Prince Eckmühl that I can not be satisfied with his conduct towards the King of Westphalia; that I had given him the command only in the event that, the meeting having taken place and the two armies being on the field of battle, a commander would have been necessary; that instead he made known this order before the meeting was made, and when he hardly communicated by some posts; that after having done this, and having learned that the King of Westphalia had retired, he must retain the direction and send orders to Prince Poniatowski:[80]

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that I do not know now how my right is going; that I had given him proof of the greatest confidence that I have in him, and that it seems to me that he did not get out of it properly, that, since he had taken the command, he owed it to keep, but that he would have done better not to take it, since he was not united to the King; that, since I am very far away, I do not know what is happening on my right, that my affairs suffer, while, if he had written to Prince Poniatowski that the King having left the command, he gave him a direction, my business would not have suffered.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

18985. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIE.

Glouhokoîé, July 20, 1812.

Cousin, it is essential to send a trusted officer on the right; he will go first to Minsk, and from there to Prince Poniatowski. If the King of Westphalia has returned, he will give him instructions: if the King has continued his advance, he will issue orders to Prince Poniatowski to command the right and instructions. General Marchand will continue to be Chief of Staff of the Right. The instructions of Prince Poniatowski and the King will be to hold General Reynier to Nesvije, so that he can press Pinsk and march to the aid of the Grand Duchy, until the moment the operations are so advanced that the Russian troops have recrossed Borysthenes. General Reynier will train at Nesvije an observation corps. Prince Poniatowski, with the 5th and 8th Corps and the 4th Cavalry Corps, must bind himself with the Prince of Eckmühl by his left and yet harass Bagration and follow him. In the distance in which he finds himself, he must act according to the circumstances and aim to prevent Bagration from doing harm and falling on the Prince of Eckmühl.

You will send an officer to Prince Schwarzenberg, who must be at Nesvije today, to support Prince Poniatowski in case of an event, and so that, if there is no danger, he will door to Minsk; to let him know when he will arrive, that I may send him orders, and that he may form mobile columns to stop the stragglers and the marauders, from whatever nation they may be. You will let him know that the enemy has evacuated his entrenched camp of Drissa, where he had fled great works and formed[81]

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stores he destroyed; that we are in Drissa, Orcha, Mohilef, and that we are walking on Vitebsk.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

18986. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDNT THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KOKHANOVO.

Gloubokoye, July 20, 1812, three o'clock in the afternoon,

Cousin, I see by your letter of the 18th, at six o'clock in the evening, that you are now at Kokhanovo. The Viceroy is at Pychno; it will be tomorrow at Kamen. General Nansouty will continue his route on the left bank as far as Biechenkovichy, and so will keep you all the left. Everything suggests that Prince Bagration will arrive under Mohilef. You will no doubt have ordered Prince Poniatowski to come to Igoumen with the 4th Cavalry Corps and the 5th and 8th Infantry, in order to flank you and be able to meet at Mohilef to attack Bagration with advantage. The three divisions of your army corps are now at Disna and fly on Biechenkovitchi; but the viceroy will succeed much more. I had the Viceroy supported by the Guard. It will be necessary, therefore, as soon as you are in communication with the Viceroy, and your left flanked, that you be in force on Mohilef, in order to remain master of this important city and to be able to receive Bagration. It appears that the Emperor Alexander is at Polotsk; they evacuated their entrenched camp of Drissa; their movements seem very uncertain. If Doktourof actually marched to help Orcha, he could not have arrived before the 20th or the 21st, and you are able to receive him and beat him well. It is very unfortunate that in such positions, by false measures, the command on my right is disorganized. I ordered Prince Schwarzenberg to go to Minsk. General Reynier must remain in observation column at Nesvije. The 5th and 8th Infantry Corps and the 4th Cavalry Corps must be on your right. I will shortly bring my headquarters to Kamen. However, continue to send me your letters to Glubokoye, and if they contained important things, you would address them in duplicate by the viceroy's channel.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.[82]

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18987. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIÉ.

Gloubokoye, July 21, 1812.

Order to General Eble to pass two companies of pontooners and two companies of sailors on Biechenkovitchi, with a pontoon officer, as much as possible. Tell him we passed the Dvina to Disna and threw three raft bridges. We also passed the Borysthenes to Orcha, where we also established raft bridges. We must nevertheless have our boats driven; it may be necessary to make a passage of strong force; but he must pass his companies diligently.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

18988. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIÉ.

Gloubokoye, July 21, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Grouchy that I received his letter; that he does not order the quantity of flour found at Orcha; that we are in the greatest need; that the whole army should meet at Kamen, and that it is necessary that he should order Borisof to send us bread and flour to Staroi-Lepel. If water transport is too slow, it will have to be shipped on the ground; but we need stores and subsistence. Tell him also that, if from Kokhanovo or Bobr he can direct food on Tchachniki, he directs them; for there will be in a little 150,000 men at Biechenkovitchi.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

18989. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIÉ.

Gloubokoye, July 21, 1812, one o'clock in the afternoon.

Cousin, order General Sorbier to leave at once with four mounted artillery batteries to reach Ouchatch as soon as possible. He will have them followed as soon as possible by the batteries on foot. Order General Curial to leave immediately with the chasseurs on foot to go to Ouchatch. It is necessary that he[83]

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take for six days bread; he will take his artillery with him. Order the small headquarters to leave today to go to Ouchatch, to be there tomorrow evening. It is necessary that the caissons of the headquarters be loaded with bread and flour, that the ambulances and all that can be useful a day of battle are there.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18990. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN KAMEN.

Gloubokoye, July 21, 1812, one o'clock in the afternoon.

My son, this letter will find you at Kamen. The enemy army goes to Vitebsk or Biechenkovichi. So you must be in presence. The corps of Nansouty must have arrived today at Polotsk; he has with him the Morand division. The riders of the Bruyère division must be near Oulla; the Gudin and Friant divisions follow the movement of the Morand division and Nansouty's corps. The Duke of Istria is today, as I told you, to Ushath with 4,000 men of cavalry. The Duke of Treviso must also be there with two divisions of the Guard. Press the meeting of your whole corps on Kamen. Instruct General Grouchy of your arrival, and of the probable arrival of the enemy on Biechenkovich, so that he may press Sienno. I do not doubt that you have been informed at Kumen of the arrival of the enemy; take care therefore that there is no clash; let your two brigades of light cavalry march together; that they do not get bombarded by the Cossacks and do not fall into ambushes. Will the enemy come to Biccheukovichi, or will he go on Vitebsk immediately? This is impossible to know. It seems that the movement on Orcha and Mohilef and the companies of Bagration took it to this movement on the left. He had made an immense entrenched camp at Drissa, which is being demolished at this moment. Inform him well if he has not done some work on the side of Biechenkovitchi and Vitebsk; until this hour I am assured that no. Walk well militarily; match your right and left, and especially that there is no clash of cavalry. Your 3 or 4,000 cavalry men may march together, having six pieces of light artillery and a few battalions of voltigeurs. Send the movement to General Grouchy, who on his side will know something[84]

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thing so that it binds you. General Grouchy will also send him to Prince Eckmühl.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. I will probably be tomorrow in Ouchath.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18991. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIÉ.

Gloubokoye, July 21, 1812, four o'clock in the afternoon.

My Cousin, the foot- chasseurs of my Guard will leave tomorrow at one o'clock in the morning. They will take food for six days, namely: 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27, at a rate of half a ration per day and a pound of meat. The grenadiers will leave on the 23rd, at one o'clock in the morning; they will also take for six days food on the same foot, namely: for 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28, The small headquarters will leave tonight; his boxes will be laden with rice, biscuit, ambulance, brandy and a few quintals of flour, leaving enough flour for the service of the whole day tomorrow. A patrol of a gendarmerie officer and five well-armed gendarmes will be sent on the road to Vilna as far as Lovarichki, in order to double the convoys she will meet. Two transport agents will be sent, one on the Sventsiany road, and the other on Mikhalichki's Vilna road. They will carry, one and the other, of the state of all the convoys which must arrive, with the day of their departure, and they will order all those whom they will meet to press their march so that they make at least six leagues a day. Any officer of the military crews who has taken more than ten days to travel from Vilna to Glubokoye through Sventsiany and more than eight or nine days by Mikhalichki will be punished and noted as having been on the road and misdirected. The small headquarters will arrange to arrive at Ouchatch on the evening of the 22nd for the staff, and for the wagons by the 23rd at the latest. All the furnace builders will leave with the small headquarters.

Order Nempde Engineer Battalion Commander, who commands the park and left for Ouchatch this morning, to take the lead with a sapper company and furnace builders to be in Ouchatch tomorrow, and build on the spot, six ovens at the Ouchatch convent, choosing where they will be[85]

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facts as quickly as possible. We must try to get them done in twenty-four hours. You will order General Kirgener to arrive tomorrow in Ouchatch to preside over the construction of the ovens.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

18992. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN KAMEN.

Gloubokoye, July 21, 1812, four o'clock in the afternoon.

My son, send an order to Borisof, who will send six thousand quintals of flour and so much bread on Staroi-Lepel by water and land. The whole army going to meet at Biechenkovitchi's point, have six ovens built at Staroi-Lepel.

Emperor Alexander was on the 18th at Vitebsk. It seems he carried from his headquarters to Nevel. It is important to seize Biechenkovitchi as soon as possible. General Bruyère will go there with his light cavalry and light artillery. The corps of General Nansouty will support him, and the infantry division of General Morand will support General Nansouty. Contact him and carry him on your side. The Duke of Istria will send you all Bavarian light horse. By this means you will have 6,000 cavalrymen in your hand. Get your sailors, sappers and pontooners to build bridges, rafts and a beautiful bridgehead on the spot in Biécheukouitchi. Your 6,000 men of cavalry and 6,000 of Nansouty would make 12,000 men. Tomorrow evening I will be at Ushatch; maybe I'll even go to Kamen. This assumes that the enemy does not have the plan to take the offensive by Biechenkovitchi, as I am justified in thinking.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

18993. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Gloubokoye, July 21, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Feltre, it is necessary that six cohorts of National Guards who are in the 8th Military Division should entrust you with the guard of the islands of Hyères, taking care to change this cohort every month, when circumstances permit.

On this occasion I must remind you that I intended to[86]

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redeem all parts of the islands of Hyeres and do something to populate these islands.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

18994. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Gloubokoye, July 22, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I receive your letter of the 21st. I have every reason to think that Prince Eckmühl will have entered Mohilef on the 20th. However, I have only news of his outposts, which They were only two or three leagues from this city. It seems that the emperor was on the 19th at Vitebsk.

I leave at once and take my headquarters to Karnen.

The King of Naples went to Polotsk and flooded the entire right bank of the Dvina with his cavalry. Re-send a second letter, and promise a reward if he goes very quickly to announce this news to the Duke of Taranto. I am told that the enemy has left only three battalions at Dinabourg; if that be true, I desire the Duke of Taranto to invest the fortress, and if there are more, he should observe it; that he must make a bridge in order to remove all that the enemy would have left on the right bank. Also announce to the Duke of Taranto that the siege crew has arrived at Tilsit; that I suppose he will have landed it and set it in motion to begin the siege of Riga; that the 1st brigade of the Daendels division must have arrived at Labiau; that, if he needed it, he could get closer to Tilsit; that the whole 9th corps, commanded by the Duke de Bellune, will be from August 8th to 9th at Tilsit; that this corps is composed of three divisions, forming more than 30,000 men; that, in case he needs it, he can send to meet him to press his march, if circumstances made it necessary.

Here is the position occupied by General Reynier: his right is at Brzesc and Kobrine, and his left at Pinsk; he holds his center at Droghichin. You see that he is in a position to enter Volhynia and protect the Grand Duchy. I have allowed him to enter Volhynia if he thought it proper. If we could provide Warsaw with a few thousand men and many volunteers to insult Volhynia as soon as the 9th and 15th Russian divisions have evacuated it, it would be a very good operation. Write to General Reynier to inform him of what is going on here, and for his part to start[87]

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communication by couriers with you. Make it clear to the Polish government that it is necessary to organize forces quickly, because everything would be good against the rascality that Tormasof has reunited. Three battalions of the Vistula regiments left on the 17th of Konigsherg and will arrive at Vilna. Tell Commander Jomini that he can write to speed their way, if he thinks that the garrison of Vilna is not strong enough, but that I suppose he will have enough people to keep the isolated. See, therefore, seriously the government, to gather every day 5 to 600 quintals of flour, and that all that leaves abundantly bread. See also Commander Jomini and the Commissar of War, so that no convoy can be detained, that they are all dispatched, and that you should inform the commanders that any convoy that will be more than eight days on the way to Vilna to Gloubokoye will be, arrested and punished. Prince Schwarzenberg must be at Nesvije. I ordered him to go to Minsk.

It seems that the great Russian army hastily evacuated its positions from the Dvina and set out on a forced march, lest I cut off the way to Moscow.

The garrison of Zamosc being too strong, since there is. an entire regiment, and no longer fearing a siege, it would be expedient to send 1,000 men from the depots to replace this regiment, of which one would make a movable column with three or four pieces of cannon. This column, to which a hundred horses would be added, would protect the country, and would be very useful to General Reynier. Write to General Reynier and the Minister of War in Warsaw. We have guns in Zamosc and Warsaw, and we could use 4 to 5,000 to arm the National Border Guards to defend the country and repel the Cossacks.

Send to General Reynier all the information you have about Tormasof's corp, to which I do not believe more than 9,000 men, and it must be all recruits.

I suppose I do not need to tell you to send couriers to Constantinople once or twice a week to carry newsletters and all possible news; if I were obliged to enter into such details with you, you would do a great disservice to my intentions. The Turks, therefore, must be in a hurry to enter Moldavia and Wallachia, and threaten the Crimea with the movement of their fleet.

Independently of the couriers of Vienna, send it by Leopold and Transylvania; it must be much shorter. Simple[88]

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couriers do not have the same effect as officers: send Polish officers.

Have the Confederation of Warsaw send a three-member embassy to Turkey; that it leaves without delay to announce the Confederation and to demand the guarantee of Turkey. You feel how important this step is; I have always had it in my head, and I do not know how I have forgotten so far to give you orders. Arrange for this deputation, with a letter from the Confederacy for the Great Lord, to speak before eight days, and arrive at Constantinople.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Prince Eckmühl entered the 20th at five in the evening at Mobilef. He found some shops there; the entrance to the square was defended by 2,000 men, who were tumbled and slashed. We took half, including 20 officers. It seems that the 26th Division, which would head Bagration, was marching on Mohilef.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

18995. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIÉ.

Gloubokoye, July 22, 1812.

My Cousin, I authorize the taking of officers and non-commissioned officers in the Vistula Legion and the Army of the Grand Duchy for the formation of the new regiments. Tell General Jomini that it is absurd to say that we have no bread when we have 500 quintals of flour a day; that instead of complaining, you must get up at four o'clock in the morning, go yourself to the mills, to the handling, and make 30,000 rations of bread a day; but if he sleeps, and if he cries, he will have nothing; that he must know well that the Emperor, who had many occupations, did not go less every day to visit himself the handling; that I do not see why he criticizes the Lithuanian government for having put all the prisoners in a single regiment; that it denotes a spirit of criticism that can only hinder the course of business, while in his position he must encourage this government and help it. Communicate to General La Riboisière the articles of Baron Farine's letter, where he will see that the artillery is not going to meet anything and does not help its affairs. Write to Baron Farine to have the Prussian authorities supply their contingents in the[89]

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measures to ensure that no quota remains behind; that we have such a great need for horses of every kind, that we must not neglect any resource, and put them all to profit with activity. Write to General Jomini to have all the rifles in the hospitals taken, and by this means he will find some that are useless.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18996. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIE.

Gloubokoïé, July 22, 1812.

Cousin, answer General Reynier that I authorize him not to send this regiment to Praga, and that I find him well placed in the place where he has placed it. Let him know that the Duke of Belluno, with the 9th corps, with 30,000 men, almost all Frenchmen, will be on the 1st of August at Murienburg, and that, if the circumstances were urgent, and the Duchy of Warsaw should be really threatened, while he General Reynier would defend the entrenched camp of Praga and Modlin; he would write to the Duke of Bellune to inform him of the urgency of the circumstances, which would enable him to come to his assistance.

You will add that the circumstances of the war are such that we are already threatening Moscow and St. Petersburg, and thus it is not probable that the enemy will think of offensive operations with passable troops; but it has been supposed that 10 or 12,000 men (the troops of the 3rd battalions, who are good for nothing in line, could be sent, with one or two regiments of cavalry, to disturb the duchy. foolish enough to detach 15 or 20,000 men from good troops on Warsaw, at the time that Petersburg and Moscow are threatened so closely, that besides it is possible that in a short time I will carry the war in Volhynia, and that then he would be part of this corps.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18997. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIE.

Gloubokoïé, July 22, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the Duke of Belluno to continue his movement and to have his headquarters from the 2nd to the 8th of August at Tilsit;[90]

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he will bring together the Daendels, Partouneaux, and Girard divisions, and his two brigades of light cavalry. He will bring from Posen all the men belonging to this last division, to incorporate them and to have three battalions by regiment.

Recommend to the Duke of Bellune to take positive measures to ensure that his cavalry is full of fodder and oats, as well as his artillery train.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18998. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIE.

Gloubokoïé, July 22 (1), 1812.

My Cousin, the 31st infantry division, forming the 3rd division of the reserve, was to be commanded by General Seras; this general being unable to take the command, it is necessary to replace him. This command will be given to Major General Lagrange (the one who has one arm less), who currently commands in Mecklenburg. General Heudelet will have him replaced in this command by one of his brigadier generals. You will order that the 31st Division, currently the Lagrange Division, move from Berlin to Stettin, and that the 32nd Division, commanded by General Durutte, be placed between Stettin, Rostock, and Berlin to provide what is necessary for the Spandau garrison, however, so as not to be more distant from Berlin than three days' march. By this means, the Duke of Castiglione will have under his command three divisions, the 30th, 31st and 32nd, within reach of the coast; so that if the enemy landed, either in Swedish Pomerania, Mecklenburg or Hamburg, or finally at Koiberg, he would be able to carry himself wherever he was needed. Also write to the Duke of Castiglione to bring the provisional regiment of dragoons between Mecklenburg and Swedish Pomerania. You will also order the marshal to send the brigade from Erfurt to go to Swedish Pomerania. He will leave 200 men to guard the citadel of Erfurt, independently of the gunners. The Brigadier General who is in Erfurt will continue to remain there, and the Erfurt Brigade will be reformed and composed of the 3rd battalions of the 3rd and 105th regiments,

1) The original is dated 28 by mistake; the orders were dispatched on the 22nd.[91]

who from Strasbourg are ordered to go to Erfurt, from the 1st and 2nd battalions of the 29th coming from the Pyrenees, and finally from two other battalions. The current Erfurt brigade will be part of a new division called the 34th and will be commanded by General Morand (the one currently commanding Swedish Pomerania). This division will be composed as follows: 1st Brigade: 4th Battalion of the 3rd, 4th Battalion of the 105th, two Battalions of the 29th, two Battalions of the 113th; 2nd brigade: a Westphalian regiment, a Hesse-Darmstadt regiment, a princely division regiment. By this means, the clutch of Castiglione will have in its hands four divisions that will form the 11th corps. Let him know that, if a descent were made, he still had 10,000 Danish commanders, and that in addition the King of Saxony would provide him with an infantry regiment and his handsome regiment of armies, with twelve pieces of armor. canon. Send to the Duke of Castiglione that there be at Rostock the 6th interim brigade; the 1st provisional half-brigade left Paris to travel to Mecklenburg. There is in Hamburg the provisional 7th Brigade; the 8th is in Bremen; that he gives the order that she go to Hamburg to join the 7th; the 9th, which is in Münster, will travel to Bremen. So there will be two half brigades or six battalions in Hamburg, six battalions in Mecklenburg and finally three battalions of the 9th in Bremen; making 15 battalions within reach. Order the 1st Battalion of the 17th Brigade, consisting of the 5th Battalion of the 8th and 18th Light Infantry, to go to Danzig to join the Lagrange Division, that is, the marching division, these detachments in front. be incorporated. The Duke of Castiglione will therefore have the Heudelet strong division of 18 battalions, the Morand strong division of 12 battalions, General Lagrange's division (which has no arm), and the Durulle division, which has 28 more battalions; which makes a total of 58 battalions. Order the 22nd Light Infantry Regiment, which arrives in Dresden, to go to Thorn, where it will hold garrison until further order.

NAPOLÉON

P. S. Notice that I order six cohorts of national guards, arriving from Frauche-Comtè and Burgundy, to go to Hamburg on 15 August.

According to the original. Deposit of war.[92]

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18999. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOÏÉ.

Gloubokoié, July 22, 1812.

My cousin, order the five 6th battalions of the 19th, 93rd, 56th, 37th and 46th to go to Danzig. I ordered the regiment of Prince Primat, composed of two battalions, and the regiment of the Confederation, which was at Groningen, to go to Danzig as well; the garrison was thus reinforced by nine battalions. At Danzig, there is now the 5th Regiment of the Main Division and the Württemberg Regiment, which is made up of four battalions. There will therefore be thirteen battalions at Danzig; which is more than sufficient for the defense of that place: for the garrison of this city does not need more than 8,000 men, including 6,000 infantry men, and 2,000 men of artillery, engineering and various troops. I ordered the Lagrange Division to march to Danzig with four marching half-brigades; it arrives on August 1st. My intention is that you order him to immediately send his half time brigade on Kœnigsberg, where they will hold garrisons. One of the other two Lagrangian division half-brigades, which remain at Danzig, will leave that place as soon as two of the nine battalions headed for Danzig arrive there. The other half brigade will leave Danzig as soon as two of the other battalions arrive. I want to know as soon as possible the whole of the old Lagrange division in Kœnigsberg. The command of this division will be given to a brigadier general. By this means, the garrison of Danzig will be provided with thirteen battalions; that of Kœnigsberg will also be provided, since, apart from the six battalions presently there, there will also be the old Lagrange division, which will now be called the marching division; which will make about 15,000 men. The entire corps of Marshal Duke de Bellune will therefore become available. He will meet in Tilsit as soon as possible. You will communicate all these provisions to the Duke of Bellune, so that he activates the movements and is available as soon as possible. His cavalry will be augmented by the Saxon cavalry regiment at Kœnigsberg. It will form two brigades, to which you will give numbers as a result of the current brigades. His first brigade, under the command of General Delaître, will consist of Berg's spearmen and Hesse-Darmstadt's light horsemen. The other brigade will be commanded by General Fouruier, and will consist of the Saxon Regiment and the Cavalry Regiment. Thus the[93]

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Duke of Bellune will have two brigades of cavalry, like all the other corps of the army. He will write in Baden and Darmstadt to send him recruits and increase the strength of his two regiments. You will summon the Duke of Belluno to know you when he thinks his headquarters may be at Tilsit, and when he will have at least two divisions with his cavalry to advance.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19000. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIE.

Glouhokoie, July 22, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Reynier, whom I find convenient to the end that he must fulfill the position he occupies; that I intend to enter Volhynia; that he is even the master to enter Volhynia when he deems it fit; that the 9th and 15th enemy divisions, commanded by General Kamenski, have only one consistency, and it is probable that the enemy is seeking to have them come to strengthen Bagration and cover Moscow; that the corps of Tormasof can not impose on him anything; that it is only a collection of the 3rd battalions, recruits who are without any consistency and at best good for containing the country; that General Reynier, having the country for himself and bringing in commissioners from Warsaw, may enter the country and insult him as soon as it is certain that the 9th and 15th divisions are no longer there; that the supposed forces arriving from Crimea are chimeras; that the Great Lord refused to ratify peace, and. that, on the contrary, the Russians are obliged to send new forces to Moldavia and Wallachia; that I do not prescribe anything to him; that its main purpose is to cover the Grand Duchy; that a good way of covering the Grand Duchy is to enter Volhynia, to make confederations everywhere, and to insurge the country; that all this is restored to his prudence; that he may write to the general of the Polish and the Polish Minister of War in Warsaw, for the sending of 2 to 3,000 men from the depots, as well as all the leading citizens of the country who wish to come and contribute to the insurrection. Give him notice that we are at Mohilef, that we have passed the Borysthenes, that we are masters of the entrenched camp of Drissa; that we are walking on Vitebsk and perhaps on Smolensk.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[94]

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19001. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GLOUBOKOIE.

Gloubokoïé. July 22, 1812,

Cousin, let General Riboisiere know that I do not really understand what the relays he has established from Kovno to Vilna are for; that if it is to carry out the transport of rifles, so necessary for the army as well as for the insurrection of the Poles, I conceive its utility; but if it is to carry cartridges and cannon, there is such a large quantity of these ammunition in the caissons not harnessed at Vilna, that I do not see the necessity of these relays. I am told that in Vilna there are 600 caissons, 40,000 guns and a large quantity of infantry cartridges. If this transport from Kovno to Vilna could be done by means of the country, I would approve that it be continued; but it seems that the artillery employs horses and oxen, which might lead us better to boxes on Glubokoye. We are going to have a battle that will make a huge consumption of powder and ammunition: how will we do to replace them? Will it be necessary to send the empty boxes to Vilna? Then it will take a month or six weeks for them to join.

Reiterate to him then the order to use all the horses and oxen of the train to approach of the army the greatest quantity of caissons of infantry and cannon that will be possible. I am assured that General La Riboisiere even employs the horses of the crews at convoys from Kovno to Vilna. If that is so, I know nothing more absurd and contrary to the interests of the army and to my intentions. The 600 caissons that are in Vilna could come hitched by 1,200 pairs of oxen. This is the big deal that needs to be addressed now.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19002. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDNT OF THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOHILEF.

Glonbokoïé. July 22, 1812. five o'clock in the evening,

Cousin, I receive your letter from the 20th to seven in the evening. I'll be the one night Kamen; the whole army marches on Vitebsk. I do not think you have anything to fear today from the army of the Emperor Alexander. I do not think that General Grouchy can be in the case of evacuating Orcha. I think you're strong enough to stand up to Bagration, choosing a[95]

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good position that covers the city. Press the arrival of Prince Poniatowski and General Latour-Maubourg. Do not believe all the false sounds. Torrnasof is in Volhynia, and has only 8,000 men of the 3rd battalions. The 9th and 15th divisions have not joined Bagration and are still in Volyn, so he has only three divisions. At most it is possible that the 27th Division, which went to Volhynia and was cut off, joined it; which would give him four divisions, or 20 or 24,000 men, with 6,000 Cossacks and 1,000 cavalry. You have more than that, and I do not think you should fear it, even if Prince Poniatowski would not have joined you. I suppose the two Russian armies will seek to meet in Smolensk.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original comm. by Mm, the Marechal Princess of Eckmühl.

19003. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN KAMEN.

Glonbokoïé, July 22, 1812. Seven-thirty in the evening.

My Son, I receive your letter from the 21st to six in the evening; she has put, as you see, twenty-four hours to arrive. I suppose that you will have sent your vanguard over Biechenkovitchi, as I have told you on the 21st; that you will have met there with the Bruyere division and with the Nansouty corps, and that from there you will have pushed posts on Vilebsk on Sienno, to communicate with General Grouchy. Press as much as possible on Biechenkovichy, in order to prevent the Russians from going to Orcha. General Grouchy, informed of your arrival, will guard Orcha, where there are many Grandfathers whom it would be unfortunate to lose. It is said that in Bièchenkovitchi there are also considerable shops. If we can keep them, it will be a great happiness; they will have been saved if your cavalry has gone quickly. I told you that you did not need to go to Ushatch, where the Duke of Istria was. I hope, then, that you have your four brigades of light cavalry, which, with the cavalry of your Italian guard, must not be less than 6000 men. Meeting at Nansouty, it will make a beautiful corps to beat the campaign and give you news of Vitebsk. I hope you have bridged Biéchenkovitehi. I leave at eight o'clock for Onchatch. Have you cooked in Kamcn and Ouchatch?

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.[96]

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19004. - TO MARSHAL OUDINOT, DUKE OF REGGIO, COMMANDING THE 2nd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POLOTSK (1).

Ouchatch, July 23, 1812.

The King of Naples has made known to you the intentions of the Emperor.

His Majesty will be at Biechenkovitchi tomorrow with the whole army, and will march on Vitebsk.

Prince Eckmühl is at Mohilef.

The enemy seems to have left Wittgenstein to cover Saiut Petersburg. Some say it is placed between Drissa and Dinabourg, the others say that it has already gone up to cover the road of Saint-Petersburg. You are opposed to this army corps. Your whole purpose is to have bridges and good bridgeheads on the Dvina, to march on Wittgenstein and keep him away from the river, to correspond with the Duke of Taranto, who must make a point of pointing at Dinabourg and to build a bridge between Dinabourg and Jacobstadt, finally to communicate with us on your right and flank the left of the Grand Army, so that in all events you can support us, if it became necessary. If circumstances make it possible for you to set up headquarters in Polotsk, and this is your point of departure, it will be very advantageous: it seems that from Polotsk, strong avant-gardes on Sebeje should force Wittgenstein to evacuate Drissa and Drouya.

Until you hear that the Due de Tarente is in Dinahourg, hold a column of observation, infantry, and cavalry, to observe the garrison of Dinabourg, and prevent too long incursions; to say to retain this column on the left bank. Place cavalry parties on the left bank between Polotsk Oulla.

According to the minute. Deposit of the war.

19005. - TO JOACHIM NAPOLEON, KING OF THE TWO SICILIES, COMMANDING THE CAVALRY RESERVES OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT DISNA.

Ouchatch, July 23, 1812, five o'clock in the afternoon.

The Emperor leaves at the same time for Kamen, where he will be that night. The Emperor has received all your letters to that of ... (2); he is happy with all the arrangements you have made.

1) This order and the following were written by the Major General under dictation of the Emperor.

2) Gap in the text.[97]

Press the Duke of Elchingen to come by the left bank, so that the Emperor will have tomorrow at Biechenkovitohi, where he will go, the three divisions Morand, Friant, and Gudin, the three of the Duke of Elchingen, and the three of the vice- King who have already surrendered, all the Guard, the whole corps of Nansouty, and the two divisions of cuirassiers de Montbrun.

As for the Sebastiani division, there is no harm in flying, without compromising, on the right river, until the Duke of Reggio is perfectly in a position.

Send the Duke of Reggio as soon as he can, he will take his headquarters to Polotsk, and this, by pushing a strong vanguard on the road to St. Petersburg, it is probable that Wittgenstein will accelerate his march to cover this capital.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19006. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BECHENKOVICHI.

Kamen, July 24, 1812. nine o'clock in the morning,

My Son, I send you my orderly officer of Hautpoul. It is very necessary that you place correspondence posts from Biechenkovitchi to Kamen, so that you can communicate promptly. I have not heard from you since your letter of yesterday, three o'clock in the afternoon. I do not know if the river has passed and if you have built bridges.

Have six furnaces built without delay.

The Major-General writes to you to send all your cavalry and General Nansouty forwards. Put your light cavalry under the orders of General Bruyere. As soon as the King of Naples arrives, he will go forward himself, to squeeze Vitebsk and be master of all the plain. We have an interest in walking quickly, in order to seize this important city, so that we can rest the army a little. But the passage on the river to Biechenkovitchi is the prerequisite of everything: this alone will accelerate the movements of the enemy. Work with the. greater activity at the head of. bridge. To avoid confusion, you will be on the vanguard, and you will first march on Vitebsk with your corps. Choose paths; it would be advantageous to walk on three columns, or at least on two; but it is necessary that[98]

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it is by good route. I suppose you have already communicated with General Grouchy.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Pino's division, who is here, seems very tired; it can only go today to Botcheikovo, all this will have time to arrive; the main thing is to have forward an infantry division to support the cavalry. If the enemy wants to fight, we should. ..... (1) so let a good infantry division start in the form of an avant-garde.

From the original comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuctenberg.

19007. – TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Kamen, July 24, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I am today in Kamen. The viceroy is at Biechenkovitchi. The enemy appears to be at Vitebsk; we walk there. Prince Bagration appears to be between Mohilef and Bobrouisk. Prince Poniatowski is walking very slowly.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19008. – TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Biechenkovich, July 25, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, Prince Eckmühl had a battle on the 23rd at Mohilef; I do not know the details. Bagration wanted to pass him on the corps, he was repulsed. A note written on the 23rd, at six o'clock in the evening, on the battlefield, bore that the enemy was in the air. Today we have a vanguard case where the enemy lost eight pieces of cannon and 7 to 800 men. All the Russian army is in Vitebsk. I teach you of this for your guidance; it is useless to write anything anywhere. We are on the eve of major events; it is better if they are not announced and the results are learned at the same time. You know that General Reynier is in a position to cover the Grand Duchy.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the duke of Bassano.

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1) Here four unreadable words.[99]

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19009. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, BIECHENKOVICHI.

Biechenkovich, July 25, 1812.

Cousin, instruct General Guyon that it would be convenient for him to stand on the side of Sienno, to form an observation column on the right of the army; that we carry on Vitebsk; that he should also go to the height of the army on Oboltsy, always communicating with our right. Write this also to General Grouchy, and that, if the affairs of Prince Eckmühl were finished on the evening of the 23rd, it would be very important for him to form a cavalry column on our right, so that; when we were in front of Vitebsk, between Orcha and us, communicating with the right wing, we had a vanguard affair at Ostrovuo, in which we took eight pieces of cannon, 200 men of cavalry, and about 600 infantrymen; that the information we receive from the prisoners is that the enemy is waiting for us at Vitebsk.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19010. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY.

Biechenkovich, July 26, 1812, four o'clock in the morning.

My Son, I have written to the King of Naples to advance near Vitebsk with wisdom and precaution, and without engaging in any other business than a great vanguard affair. It can attack a corps of 10 to 12,000 men, but not commit a general business that it is well prepared. Or the enemy wants to fight, or he does not want to fight. If the enemy wants to fight, it is very fortunate for us. It might be prevented by the non-union of one or two of his corps; so there is no problem in letting him meet, since otherwise it might be an excuse for him not to fight. I guess the Italian division is running to join you. Gather your whole corp and support the King of Naples. If there was to be a battle, it does not seem to me that it could take place before the 28th; but it would be good to be in position as soon as possible. Prince Poniatowski arrives today, with his corp, at the height of Prince Eckmühl; this marshal is currently in force.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S.A.I. The Duchess of Leuehtenberg,[100]

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19011. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Biechokovich, July 26, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I received your letters of the 24th. I leave at once to go before Vitebsk. If the enemy holds, we will fight after tomorrow. The Emperor Alexander is said to Smolensk. Prince Poniatowski and Westphalians join. Business can not go better. The light cavalry yesterday took twelve pieces of cannon and made 800 prisoners. The hussars of the Russian guard lost 300 men. It is General Ostermann who commands the army corps which was 'before us', which is composed of two divisions. General Ostermann succeeded Chouvalof. Give this news to Prince von Schwarzenberg and General Reynier. I am justified in thinking that regular divisions will seek to gain Moscow. The country is beautiful, the harvest superb, and we find everywhere enough to live. Instruct Marshal Macdonald about this news. I look forward to hearing that he has passed the Dvina, that he has surrounded Dinabourg and that he has advanced the siege crew against Riga. I expect to be in Vitebsk soon. Prince Eckmühl not only repulsed Bagration's attack, but only engaged ten of his battalions. He has killed or wounded only a hundred men. The Russians had a thousand men killed, wounded by the facts prisoners.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano

19012. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY. BIECHENOVITCHI.

Biéchenkovilchi. July 26, 1812.

Cousin, order General Defrance to leave with his division this morning to go to the vanguard under the orders of the King of Naples. He will send an aide-de-camp to the King to announce his march.

Order the Duke of Elchingen to march today in the direction of Vitebsk; to leave to Biechcnkovitchi, to keep the right bank and the left bank and work at the bridgehead, his 25th division, which by this means will have time to rally.

Write to the Duke of Reggio to inform him that it is indispensable that he maneuver on the right bank to contain Wittgenstein and to clear all the Dvina; that if he can do his operation from[101]

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Polotsk, it will be better; but that he alone can decide what he can do; that he therefore has carte blanche; but that he must take every means to correspond promptly with us.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19013. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, BIECHENKOVICHI.

Biechenkovich, July 26, 1812.

My Cousin, send from Thermes, the aide-de-camp of the Duke of Reggio. You will inform the Duke that we are marching on Vitebsk, and that the Prince of Eckmuhl has beaten Bagration at Mohilef. Tell him he must sweep the right bank and push Wittsenstein with his sword in his loins; that he must always leave a small garrison in Polotsk in the event that he flung himself on the left; that after arriving at Vitebsk I will direct a corps on Memel, who will communicate with him. It is to be presumed that if, from Polotsk, the duke made a movement on Seheje, he would compel Wittgenstein to rise to cover the road to Petersburg; as Wittgenstein has only 10,000 infantrymen, he can walk handily on him.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19014. - TO THE QUEEN HORTENSE, IN PARIS.

Vitebsk, July 29, 1812.

My Daughter, I saw with difficulty, by your letter of the 11th, that Napoleon was ill, and I learned with pleasure, by that of the 14th, that he was out of danger. I had counted on this quick cure, knowing how much a mother is prepared to be alarmed.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Emperor.

19015. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA

Vitebsk, July 29, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I receive your letter of July 26th. No foreign diplomatic agent should remain in Vilna. You must, therefore, make it clear to M. de Waltersdorf that he must go to Konigsberg or Warsaw.

I can only approve all the observations you make on the Warsaw Embassy.[102]

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You do not give me any news of Samogitia, I have none of the Duke of Taranto; try to have some, either by the marshal or by the local authorities, and if there is anything new, let me be promptly informed.

Press the formation of the stores, the mills and the deliveries of Kovno in Vilna, as well as the supply of the roads of Vilna on Minsk and Vitebsk. Also, press them to form their regiments.

I am sending you an application to me regarding a guard of honor. Fifty to sixty people would have to be sure before seriously forming this request, so as not to be ridiculous.

I refer you the attached dispatches; I still do not understand anything about Turkey's affairs.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19016. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vilebsk. July 29, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, we entered Vitebsk yesterday. The enemy is retreating on all sides. I went to Souraje to pursue him; but, as he has divided himself to follow different paths, it is not possible to reach him. The general opinion is that he goes to Smolensk to cover this city. These last cases cost the enemy a lot of people. You wear your pearl at 7 or 8,000 men. Many of his generals have been killed or fatally wounded. We occupy Mohilef, Orcha, and all the country between the Dvina and the Dnieper, having bridgeheads on either of these rivers. This position has always been considered as the main position of Russia. I asked for horse lifts; this is very important to harness the park I left in Vilna. See what can be done on this, either by requisitions or by purchases. Do the requisitions I ordered come back? I asked for it in the Grand Duchy and Prussia; will that make something? Ensure that the burned bridge is completed promptly.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[103]

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19017. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, July 29, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Sebastiani that General Grouchy arrived yesterday at Babinovitehi; that thus his right flank is perfectly assured, Write to General Grouchy that I receive at once his letter of the 28th, at four o'clock in the afternoon; that it is necessary that he places three posts of correspondence between Babinovitchi and Vitebsk, that he should keep the posts and that finally he takes all necessary measures so that we can communicate quickly; that the Duke d'Abrantes, who went to take the command of the 8th corps, will have given him news of what has happened on this side; that it seems that the enemy has withdrawn, left on Souraje and gone on Smolensk; that it is probable that Bagration will go to Smolensk to join; that it would be necessary for us to have a bridge with a bridgehead at Orcha, which imperial quarter is at Vitebsk; that General Sebastiani marches on the road of Roudnia (that way they will be put in communication); that the King of Naples carries himself with his cavalry between Kasplia and Borysthenes, that the Viceroy is at Souraje; the Duke of Elchingen at Liozno, the Duke of Reggio at Polotsk, and the Bavarians at Biechenkovitchi; that he transmit this information to Prince Eckmühl; that correspondence must at present become very rapid between Mohilef and Vitebsk; that it is necessary to organize the posts so that the journey can be done in fifteen or eighteen. hours; that we await news from the Prince of Eckmühl, who will make known the state of the situation of his troops, of Prince Poniatowski, of the 8th corps, of the 4th corps of cavalry, and of General Grouchy's troops.

P. S. Immediately we receive letters from the Prince d'Eckmühl of the 28th of July, at nine o'clock in the morning, announcing that the enemy has appeared at Chklof, and that he is marching on it.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war,

19018. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk. July 29, 1812.

Cousin, write to Prince Eckmühl to let him know that the King of Naples, who now has his headquarters at Yanovichi, is moving forward to occupy the whole country between the Kasplia[104]

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and the Dnieper; that General Sebasliani has his headquarters in Roudnia; that the Duke of Elchingen march on Liozno, that the Viceroy is at Souraje, that we have not heard from him for several days; that the principal intention of the Emperor, if the enemy does not oblige him to contrary dispositions, is to give seven or eight days' rest to the army, in order to organize the magazines; that it would appear that the position he was to occupy would be Orcha, by having Mohilef guarded by one of the corps under his command; that, by the provision of it, there would be only four steps from Orcha to the imperial quarter, and from the Dnieper to the Kasplia, that is to say from the line of the Berezina, only three steps; that it would be necessary for him to have a good bridge with a good bridgehead at Orcha on the Dnieper; that the army would thus have all the possible advantages, since it would have a bridge over the Dvina and one over the Dnieper, and that it would be very concentrated; that the enemy has lost 7,000 to 8,000 men in the combats of these three days, and that he is retreating with great haste by all the roads. Send this letter to Prince Eckmühl by one of your officers, who is sure to arrive.

Write to General Grouchy to inform him of this news, and have not had his since the 26th, which seems very extraordinary.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19019. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, July 29, 1812.

Cousin, let the Duke of Elchingen know that after pursuing the enemy as far as Yanovich, I returned to Vitebsk; that I wish him to take a position at Liozno, but to march at very short days, so that his troop may have time to rally, and that all his artillery may join him; that General Sebastiani will cover him; that the King of Naples is at Yanovichi; that he will be carried between the Kusplia and the Dnieper; that the Viceroy is at Souraje, occupying both banks of the Dvina; that I wish him to build two handlings of six kilns between Roudnia and Vitebsk, and to assemble on all sides, by lawful requisition, by addressing the authorities of the Mohilef Government District, where Liozno and Roudnia, enough to feed his army corps regularly and have a supply of biscuit and biscuit bread for twenty days;[105]

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that the situation of the cavalry, the infantry, and the artillery is such, that I am resolved, if the enemy does not force me to take a contrary course, to wait seven to eight days in refreshment to rest the army; let him place his three divisions in good localities, all taken from the government of Mohilef: let his troops make good barracks where they can be sheltered from the rain, and let them begin. regular distributions and supplies.

Write to General Sebasliani that I received his report; that the two brigades of light cavalry of the Duke of Elchingen will be reinforced, to which he must give an account of all that will be new; that the Duke of Elchingen pushes on Roudnia; that the King of Naples, who now has his headquarters at Yanovichi, will occupy the whole country between the Kasplia and the Dnieper; that I wish him to place correspondence posts so as to give me twice a day news; that, besides, he must maintain a severe discipline, and not be able to tire his troops too much; that regardless of the direct accounts he will send here he must report to the King of Naples.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19020. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AVITEBSK

Vitebsk, July 30, 1812, five o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Reggio to recommend to him again the destruction of the entrenched camp of Drissa; that it would be very unfortunate if, by any circumstances, an enemy corps returned to Drissa, that he might still profit by his works; that the shaving of this entrenched camp is therefore of the greatest urgency; that it is important that he should communicate with the Duke of Taranto, who must have passed on the right bank near Dinabourg.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war,

19021. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AVITEBSK.

Vitebsk, July 30, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Bronikowski in Minsk to let you know what divisions Bagration has sent back[106]

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on the rear and those he has, and so that he indicates their number.

Return to the viceroy the receipts of the two Italian officers, making him understand that this march is bad and disorganized.

Write to Prince Schwarzenberg to accelerate his movement on Minsk. Let him know that Prince Poniatowski is at Mohilef, that Prince Eckmühl is at Orcha, that the headquarters are at Vitebsk, the King of Naples at Roudnia, the Viceroy at Souruje, the Duke of Elchingen at Liozno, the Duke of Reggio marching on Nevel; that the meeting of Bagration with the Grand Army will be on Smolensk; It could not have been prevented, since it could only take place in five or six days, but the heat was so strong, and the army so fatigued that the Emperor thought it best to give him a few days' rest.

Order Prince Schwarzenberg to occupy Minsk with 12 or 1500 men of infantry, cavalry and artillery, Lapitchi and the Svislotch Bridge to observe Bobruisk. Tell him that I would like him to announce the number of Bagration's infantry divisions; are there four or six? that we are uncertain about it, as well as the number of cavalry divisions.

From the original unsigned. Deposit of the war.

19022. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AVITEBSK.

Vitebsk, July 30, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Grouchy that I received his letter; that I hope he will not have evacuated Bahinovitchi, since he will have received my letters from yesterday, where I made him know that General Sebasliani was marching on Roudnia, and recommended him to cover the country on the right bank of the Dnieper. Tell him that the King of Naples is sleeping tonight at Kolychki, and that he will probably be in Roudnia tomorrow; that the Duke of Elchingen is at Liozno. Say that I send Gudin's division to Pavlovichi; that she will leave at midnight and that she will be there early, and will supply battalions of light infantry to assure the position of Bahinovitchi. It is also suitable for him to occupy Liouhavitchi.

NAPOLEON

According to the moose. Deposit of the war.[107]

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19028. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, July 30, 1812, eight o'clock in the evening.

Cousin, send the Poles that the Prince of Eckmühl sent here. Let him know that the enemy is retiring on two columns, one, composed of two corps and the imperial guard, by Liozno and Roudnia; the other, by Vallovitchi and Porietche; that General Sebastiani will be in Roudnia today; that the Duke of Elchingen is at Liozno; that General Nansouty must be at Porietche tonight; that the viceroy is at Souraje; that the King of Naples is now sleeping at Kolychki and going to Itoudnia; that General Grouchy has abandoned Babinovitchi, but that I have ordered him to go there tomorrow, and that I have him supported by the Gudin division. Tell him that my intention is to give seven or eight days' rest to the army, which is very tired; that I preferred this advantage to that of arriving at Smolensk before Bagration. Let him know that the Prince of Schwarzenberg will arrive at Minsk from the 1st to the 2nd of August; that I wish to have a bridgehead at Orcha, and that he should have an advance guard between Orcha and Tovkvatchi, wishing to preserve the bank of little Berezina. It will be necessary to bridge the Dnieper with a beachhead; by this means, this vanguard will have a line of operation on Orcha by the right bank and even on Liubavitchi and Vitebsk, and will respect the Smolensk road on the left bank of the Dnieper. Let him know that General Grouchy remains under his orders; that he may order him to go to Liubavitchi, or even place him to form this vanguard; that I want shops to be formed in Bahinovitchi, so that we can live without desolating the country. Tell him that it is necessary that he should bring the 4th corps of cavalry, commanded by General Latour-Maubourg, as quickly as possible on Orcha; that he will command the 5th Corps and the 8th, as well as the 4th Cavalry. Recommend that he avoid all cavalry clashes by filling all the posts of the Dnieper, from Mohilef to Orcha, with detachments of infantry which support the cavalry. Let him know that Prince Poniatowski must establish bridges and a bridgehead at Mohilef, to make incursions in the country for 12 or 15 leagues in order to fill his stores; that Orcha's communication with Vitebsk must be very rapid, by having all the relay stations re-established, so that we can communicate in fourteen or fifteen hours; also for the Mohilef road. Tell him that I want to know positively the number of[108]

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divisions that Bagration; is it four or six? You will send a duplicate of this letter to General Grouchy, who will send it to Prince Eckmühl, and send him the primata by the Pole who has arrived from Orcha.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19024. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitebsk, July 31, 181: l.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I can hardly see that the 8,000 patients who are in Vilna are in want and even lack straw, and that the shops are without any sort of supply. Seek to take steps to improve this state of affairs.

You will have received a letter from Prince Schwarzenberg on the 29th, which will have informed you that General Reynier met the enemy on the 26th, near Kobrine; it was this movement which cleared the duchy. He esteems it to know the force and nature of the troops that the Russians have against him. It would be necessary that the garrison of Zamosc, which is of a fine regiment, to which 2 to 300 horses and six pieces of cannon were to be added, should enter Volhynia, and roam in a mobile column on the frontier. Write accordingly.

You will inform the Archbishop of Malines that I am not satisfied with what he wrote to Prince Schwarzenberg on military operations; that there was a simpler and more natural means of referring to the military commander, General Dutaillis, who is authorized to such measures; but that it is against the dignity of an ambassador to ask for help in that manner; that the letter of General Dutaillis would have had more weight, and that the one which this general would have written to the commandant of Lemberg would have had more influence, and would not have had any inconvenience; that he does not know enough the boundaries of his place.

I send you two excerpts from Russian newspapers. Make them die in the newspapers of Paris.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[109]

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19025, - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK

Vitebsk, July 31, 1812.

The staff of the right wing is dissolved (1)

General Comte Marchand, chief of the staff of the right wing, will take command of the 25th Infantry Division until the recovery of the Royal Prince of Wurtemberg.

The 5th and 8th Army Corps will, until further orders, take the orders of Marshal Prince Eckmühl.

The 4th Cavalry Corps will be part of the Grand Reserve of Cavalry, but will, depending on the circumstances, be under the orders of the marshals commanding the various corps.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19026. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECRMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ORCHA.

Vitebsk, July 31, 1812, eleven o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, I receive your letter from the 30th at three o'clock in the afternoon; It is ten o'clock, so that the officer has been on the road for eighteen hours. The movement you are making is entirely in my intentions. The continuation of this movement to the mouth of the Berezina in the Dnieper is still in the system. I approve that on the road from Liady to Liubavitchi you build a bridge over the Dnieper with a good bridgehead, so that you can maneuver on one or the other bank. General Montbrun is at Roudnia with all his cavalry corps. The King of Naples must have his headquarters. The Duke of Elchingen is at Liozno. I ordered General Grouchy, who had evacuated Babinovitchi, to resume his position, to receive your orders, and to cover the right wing of the Dnieper. Send him an order that he come to join you, so that you are in force on the Berezina. I sent General Gudin to Pavlovilchi, and I authorized him to supply light troops to light General Grouchy's cavalry. When the latter joins you, send these infantry detachments back to their division so that everything remains intact.

(1) These provisions were motivated by the departure of the King of Westphalia, who, after much discussion with the Prince d'Eckmühl, had resigned from the command of the right wing of the Grand Army, composed of the 5th, 7th and 8th Corps of Infantry and 4th Cavalry Corps.[110]

The Morand and Friant divisions are near Vitebsk; they are in good condition, but this rest can only be useful to them.

The viceroy is at Souraje. Gen. Nansouty walks on Porietche; I suppose he will have arrived yesterday. However, the enemy seemed to be still in force. I sent the Duke d'Abrantes to command the 8th corps. The Prince, whom the King of Westphalia had withdrawn, must be on his way to rejoin this corps. I wish to give a few days of rest to the army. Repeat the orders for Latour-Ylnubourg to join you. You have, under your command, the corps of General Grouchy, that of General Latour-Maubourg, that of Prince Poniatowski, the 8th Corps, and what you have of yours.

Prince Poniatowski has a bad correspondence; he always laments instead of speaking positively. A well-done state of affairs speaks for itself and does not make a strong one in general; that he sends a good situation. He is staying at Mohilef; I suppose that he will have informed himself, and that he will have been furnished by requisitions whatever may be lacking.

Send me the situation chart of Grouchy's corps, the 8th Corps, the 5th Corps, the corps of Latour-Maubourg and the divisi-ons you have with you. I suppose the 33rd Light Infantry Regiment needs to reorganize itself; it would be quite important to have him join you. One business day it will fight and occupy his position in a wood, in skirmishers. Rally your corps, make sure that you have all your grenadier and voltigeur companies, and send me the situation of everything, so that I can decide what to do, which can only be the result of perfect knowledge. things. Keep your artillery park that I had recalled, because I believed in a great battle in Vitebsk. Above all, try to have regular distributions. Your correspondence must be established by Babinovitchi to be fast. Gudin's division protects Pavlovichi post; put infantry at the positions of Bubiuovitchi and Oriekhi, so that the posts of this road are completely safe from the Cossacks.

Send me status reports; send them to me partially, without waiting for all to reach you. Let me know also the number of divisions you believe in Bagration; he does not have the 23rd, who was here. Does it have three, four or six divisions? It is said that General Latour-Maubourg had a considerable success on the enemy rearguard.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Madame the Marshal Princess of Eckmühl.[111]

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19027. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA,

Vitebsk, August 1st, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, write in the Grand Duchy to organize the national guards everywhere, and to distribute arms on the frontiers in order to shelter them from the Cossacks; that some battalions of game - keepers are also formed to augment the movable column drawn from the garrison of Zarnosc, thus guaranteeing the frontier. Advance the organization of the 10,000 men of the regiments of Lithuania. I would already be under Smolensk if I had not given the army a few days' rest, in order to rally what remained behind and to rest the cavalry.

The Major General has just received letters from the Duke of Tarentum on the 22nd, 24th and 26th. I sent listeners to Courland; match them. It would not be a problem if you sent Memel from vice-consuls to Libau and Mittau,

The royal prince of Wurtemberg fell ill at Belmont Castle.

You see that all our things are going well. Try to give us positive information on the number of divisions that are in Volyn.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

19028. - TO COUNT LAPLACE,
CHANCELLOR OF THE SENATE AND MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE, PARIS.

Vitebsk, August 1st, 1812.

Count Laplace, I am pleased to receive your treatise on calculating probabilities. There is a time when I would have read it with interest; today I must limit myself to expressing to you the satisfaction I feel every time I see you give new works which perfect and extend this first of the sciences. They contribute to the illustration of the nation. The advancement and perfection of mathematics is intimately linked to the prosperity of the state.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Marquis de Laplace.

1) *Analytical Theory of Probabilities,* Paris, 1812.[112]

19029. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 1st, 1812.

Cousin, write to the King of Naples that Porietche's point must be observed by his light cavalry; that the Broussier division be placed between Yanovitchi and Porietche, in a good position, so as to support by some companies of voltigeurs the cavalry of the reserve which will be at Porietche. Send these provisions to the viceroy, who by this means will have the Bavarians available, whom he may employ to strengthen the reconnaissance on the right bank; I wish him to push these recognitions as far as possible to require food and to hear news of what the enemy is doing.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19030. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 1st, 1812,

My Cousin, it is necessary to organize the districts of Velije, Souraje, Gorodok and Nevel, and to draw food from these four districts.

General Saint-Cyr will draw food from the district of Pololsk, and the Duke of Reggio from the districts of Drissa, Sebeje, Lioutsyne, Riejitsa, and Dinabourg. All the resources of the Lepel district will be retained to form a central store in Lepel, and organize the stages of Biechenkovitchi,

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19031. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK

Vitebsk, August 1st, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Taranto by duplicate; a copy of your letter will be sent to you by an officer of your staff, whom you will send him directly; the other copy will be addressed to the Duke of Reggio, who will send it to him. You will write to the Duke of Taranto that you have put before me the letters of the 22nd, 24th, and 26th; that I have seen with pleasure the operation of the Prussians; that I grant them ten decorations of the Legion for the officers who have distinguished themselves the most; I want him to introduce me to those who deserve this[113]

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reward. Give him news of what happened here and the situation of the army. Tell him that he can take General Ricard's chief of staff, or General Bachelu, and officers of the Polish officers of the Granjean division; that the paymaster of the Granjean division will serve for his staff; that the siege crew is at Tilsit with all its equipment and personnel; that there is also a siege of engineers, which also has its personnel and equipment; that General Campredon must direct the siege of Riga; that General Chasseloup completes his engineering officers to the number of 20; that on the Dvina the best crews are raft bridges; that we have not used any of them in all the passages we have made.

Write to General Chasseloup to complete the number of officers of the engineers for the siege of Riga, and to send the companies of engineers necessary for this operation.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19032. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 1st, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Reggio to inform him that General Guyon's light cavalry brigade, which has passed on the right bank of the Dvina, here at Vitebsk, has pushed as far as Nevel, and there is nothing find; that the Viceroy, on his side, has pushed parties on Velije and Ousviate, and has not met anything; that Wittsenstein must therefore be at Sebeje or have pressed Bigll; that we have not heard from him (from the Duke of Reggio) since the 27th, and that we are very anxious to have some; that the Duke of Taranto invested Riga on the left bank; that he was occupied on the 26th to assemble means to build a bridge; that the enemy had destroyed the bridgehead and burnt the bridge; that on this side the enemy has retired to Smolensk; that the King of Naples is at Roudnia, the Viceroy at Souraje, the Prince of Eckmühl in front of Orcha, half way to Smolensk, Prince Poniatowski to Mohilef, and the Bavarians to Biechenkovilchi.

You will send the despatch to the Duke of Reggio by duplicate; one, by the right bank, will be transmitted by the care of General Guyon, the other, by the left bank to Polotsk, will be carried by an officer of your staff.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war[114]

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19033. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDING THE 4th AND 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SOURAJE.

Vitebsk, August 1st, 1812, five o'clock in the afternoon.

My Son, I receive your letter of July 31st. You do not say the number of the regiments and corps to which belong the four battalions which were tumbled by your cavalry.

General Nansouty is at Troubilova, and General Bruyere at Porietche; so you are covered on this side. The Duke of Elchingen's corps is in Liozno and extends to Roudnia. You can carry the Broussier division on the Porietche road, between Yanovichi and Porietche; it will have to provide some light infantry companies to support the cavalry that is at Porietche and avoid the clashes.

Runners were pushed to near Nevel without finding the enemy. You should rather enlighten Velije and Ousviate than occupy them. I see with pleasure that the flour you have taken will offer you good resources. Send parties 15 or 20 leagues, if the enemy allows you, especially on the right bank, and require corn, flour, oxen. Supply yourself by this means,

It is very extraordinary that the officers who command the detachments were stupid enough to loot the mails of the mail which it was so important to have. Have an investigation done on this.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19034. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitebsk, August 2, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I received your different letters. I read with interest the information your travelers gave you on the Courland. Send smart men back for more information.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duc de Bassano.[115]

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19035. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitebsk, August 2, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, the courier arrives and brings me news of the defeat of the three battalions which General Reynier had left so ridiculously in the air.

Write to Prince Schwarzenberg that I have told you that I put the 7th corps under his command; that my intention is, that with the two united corps, which must make 40,000 men, he will march on Tormasof and Kamenski, to give battle to them; that he even enters Volbynia, if necessary, and that he is careful to ensure that in no case neither of them can come upon me.

Tell Prince Schwarzenberg that the Prussians have defeated General Essen at Ekaou and made him 300 prisoners, and that they have invested Riga.

There is nothing new here. The enemy hastily retreated to Smolensk. Our posts were as far as Nevel, our outposts are three-quarters of Smolensk Road.

It's always a problem for me whether Bagration has four or six divisions.

Fold your agents on the left side; send it to Mittau and Riga, and let them go quickly.

NAPOLEON.

P.S. Also send agents in the district of Vidzy, to Drissa and Disna, to know if there are stragglers, if tranquility is restored, and if one has concerns of the Cossacks on the side of the right bank .

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19036. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk. August 2, 1812.

Cousin, send an officer to Prince Schwarzenberg to let him know that I put the 7th corps under his command, that he rallies this body and marches to Tormasof and Karnenski and their battle book, and that he must follow them everywhere up to he has come to the end.

Let General Reynier know that I gave the prince[116]

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Schwarzenberg the superior command on the two corps united.

From the original unsigned. Deposit of the war,

19037, - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK,

Vitebsk. August 2, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Prince of Eckmühl to inform him that by my letter of the 30th of July I asked him that it was necessary for him to have a bridge and a bridgehead over the Borysthenes, that the natural site of this bridge seemed to me to be on the road from Liubavitchi to Liady; that it was necessary to have a bridge and a bridgehead at Orcha; that so much was needed of Mohilef; that the 8th corps at Orcha and the 5th at Mohilef should exercise a great movement on the left bank, as much to procure provisions as to not allow the enemy to approach it; that General Gudin is at Pavlovitchi; that he provided two battalions to General Grouchy and placed a battalion at Babinovitchi; that I will not be far from directing this division upon him also, that I will know definitively the position he has taken.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19038. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk. August 3, 1812.

Cousin, it is proper for you to send today, before six o'clock in the morning, an intelligent and trusted Polish officer to Prince Schwarzenberg, with the duplicate of the letter which you have written to him by your aide-de-camp Flahault. You will inform him that, in accordance with the intention manifested to me by the Emperor of Austria, I wished to call his army corps under my immediate command; that I thought that the corp of General Reynier might be sufficient to contain the troops of Volhynia, planning to send a considerable corp of Poles by Mozyr into Volhynia as soon as the corp of Prince Schwarzenberg entered the line; but that today, the enemy having so strongly taken the initiative and the corp of General Reynier being allowed to begin, my intention is that he walks with all diligence to repel the enemy[117]

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and prevent it from ravaging this part of the territory; that, as it is particularly cavalry that General Reynier misses, his cavalry can take the lead; that I wish him to leave a thousand horses, two artillery batteries, and a brigade, totaling 4,000 men, at Nesvije, to form a reserve, commanded by a brigadier-general, to serve according to the circumstances; that I even allow him to carry this reserve to 7 or 8,000 men, if he thought he could do it without inconvenience.

Tell him that Tormasof has a division at Mozyr and probably two divisions with him; that these two divisions should be composed only of 3rd battalions, like those of Courland, which were so easily overthrown by the Prussians; that 200 Italian horses of the viceroy also met four of these battalions and tumbled them of a load; that in the general organization of the Russian army we knew that Tormasof must have the 27th division, which was a new division and which formed its true strength; but I believe that this 27th division could not reach him, and that it is probable then that he will have kept the 9th or the 15th division; that it is necessary that he take all the means to know well the divisions which the enemy has in Volhynia; that we believe that Bagration has passed the Borysthenes with six divisions; that, being this, there would be at most one left in Volhynia, independently of the 3rd battalions of Tormasof; that I wish him to march with speed, attack and overthrow the enemy, Kamenski and Torrnasoff, and carry the war into Volhynia; that, moreover, the events which will take place, and the precise information which he will have on the number of regular divisions which the enemy has in Volhynia, will enable me to inform him of my subsequent intentions.

NAPOLEON.

P.S. That the brigadier-general whom he will leave at Nesvije be ordered to correspond with the headquarters and with the commanding general at Minsk, to instruct all that there is new.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19039. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 3, 1812.

Cousin, send to General Saint-Cyr that he set himself on the move tomorrow to go to Polotsk. This city being quite[118]

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considerable, he will find more ways to reorganize himself. He will be under the Duke of Reggio, to push the enemy and force him to leave these places. Thus, under the double point of view of military operations and cantonments of subsistence, he will be better placed there.

Recommend the Duke of Reggio to have all the prisoners evacuated to Vilna, taking care to have them escorted and to have the state of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers prisoners by regiment and division. This state especially is very necessary. Send Adjutant Commander Falkowski to interrogate these prisoners. He will pay special attention to what division and corps these prisoners are, if there are many among them of the 3rd battalions; finally, if there are regiments commanded by Prince Repnine. Is there any of the 25th division?

Send this letter to the Duke of Reggio by Adjutant Commander Falkowski; the aide-de-camp of the Duke of Reggio will be sent later. Inform the Duke of Reggio that General Saint-Cyr's corps is going to Polotsk to reinforce it, in order to urge General Wittgenstein and force him to evacuate the entire right bank of the Dvina.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19040. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE. GREAT ARMY, A DOUBROVNA.

Vitebsk, August 3, 1812, six o'clock in the evening,

Cousin, I receive your letter from the 2nd to eleven o'clock at night. Your street troops seem well placed; but take care that your bridgeheads are well made, that they are palisaded and that they are works that may be useful. It is necessary that, wishing to maneuver only on one island, one can remain master of the bridge and that the enemy can not destroy it although master of the other bank.

This uncertainty about Bagration annoys me greatly, since I do not know the forces that are in Volhynia; if Bagration has only four divisions, it is clear that there are three divisions, independently of the formed divisions of the 3rd battalions. It is necessary that General Latour-Maubourg should stand on the right of Mohilef, holding Bobrouisk under observation and being able to know in good time what is going on in Lozyr. A division of Prince Poniatowski must be placed several days lower than Mohilef, in order to be[119]

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well lit on everything that is done in the south. General Kamenski attacked Kobrin and, after a few hours of fighting, removed three Saxon battalions left by General Reynier. I ordered Prince Schwarzenberg, who had already arrived at Nesvije, to go on all steps on Volhynia and to attack Tormasof and Kamenski, but I am assured that there is at Mozyr a division on which he is suitable to keep awake.

The Duke of Reggio had, on the 30th, 31st, and 1st of August, quite warm affairs with Prince Wittgenstein, between Polotsk and Sebeje. The result was the capture of 14 guns, 3 caissons, 3,000 prisoners and a large number of killed. It estimates our loss only 600 wounded, but I have reason to believe it double. The Prussians had on the 19th at Ekaou an affair with the corps which is at Riga; they beat him, made him 300 prisoners and surrounded the beachhead.

No longer able to count on Prince Schwarzenberg at Minsk, it is necessary, as I have said above, that Prince Poniatowski should have one of his divisions with cavalry approaching the enemy and having to threaten Bobrouisk and Mozyr.

Let me know how you live and what is the situation of your troops. Have furnaces been built at Mohilef? Have you evacuated all your wounded from the Mohilef affair on Borisof and Minsk, in order to have nothing on the front line?

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

19041 - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitebsk, August 4, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I receive your letters from ..... I have already told you that it was my intention that Prince Schwarzenberg should come to General Reynier's assistance. The Duke of Reggio had, on the 30th, 31st, and 1st of August, battles with Wittgenstein and Prince Repnine; he took 14 pieces of cannon, killed 2 to 3,000 men, and made 3,000 prisoners. Send this to Prince Schwarzenberg in Warsaw, and to the Duke of Taranto. The enemy seems to have entirely withdrawn from Smolensk; In a few days he will join up with Bagration; but it appears from General Reynier's letters that he has left two divisions behind him. Thus, adding to the absence of these divisions the failures he has received, he will not bring much reinforcement. Prince Schwarzenberg has taken the right course; together[120]

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to the Saxons, I hope he will soon bring the war to Volyn.

I thought it best to stop to give the army some rest and organize the shops. Do you use it effectively to organize those of Vilna and the road. Make sure the governor unloads the buildings and stores their cargo so they can return to Kovno.

Write to the Duke of Taranto that I have not heard from him since the 26th, that I am impatiently waiting for him to have passed the Dvina, since he will be a diversion in favor of the Duke of Reggio.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19042. - ORDER.

Imperial District of Vitebsk, August 4, 1812.

1st *Grains*. - Ten thousand quintals of rye and grain will be taken in the countries of the right bank of the Dvina, and they will be stored at Vitebsk.

The Duke of Istria will order detachments of the Cavalry of the Guard for this purpose, and the Intendant-General will supply three convoys of the carriages of the Headquarters, each of 70 wagons; the first convoy will leave today, the second convoy will leave tomorrow, and the third convoy will leave the day after tomorrow.

Independently of this, the cars belonging to the Guard and the Guards, either on foot or on horseback, will be used to transport the said grains. We will also use the wagons that will be found in the country.

If necessary, the cars laden with flour at the headquarters will be unloaded, and the flours put in store to be reloaded at the time of departure.

The commissioner of war and an employee of the administration will take the orders of the Duke of Istria for this operation.

2nd *Flours*. - All existing flours in Vitebsk will be required for the needs of the army.

3rd *Mills*. - General Chasseloup will command an officer with the number of workmen required to repair all the mills, so that they may be ready to serve as soon as possible.

All existing hand mills in the city, in the suburbs and surrounding areas will be identified and required. Detachments of the Guard will be ordered to work on grinds.

Arrangements will be made in such a way that all these means of[121]

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milled together can provide Vitebsk shops with at least 600 quintals of flour a day.

4th *Ovens*. - It will be built thirty-two ovens, so as to be able to make 100,000 rations of bread per day.

5th *Hospitals*. - The shops which remain closed by the absence of the owners will be inventoried and seized; all that would be useful to the hospitals or to the army will be delivered to the various administrations. It will be made a descent in the cellars of the convents of the Jesuits and others; the wines existing there will be assigned to the service of the hospitals.

The Intendant General will take steps to procure coffee for the hospitals, in order to supply as much wine as possible.

6th The Major-General will give all the necessary orders and will hold hands with the execution of this order.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19043, - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, VILNA

Vilebsk, August 5, 1812,

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, write to Prince Schwarzenberg that I approve of the movement he has made on Volhynia. Instruct him that the Duke of Tarentum entered Dinabourg and seized eight pieces of cannon; that, after having worked three years in this place, the enemy abandoned her; let it be known to me that the division which was at Mozyr passed the Borysthenes, to go on the army; that the whole Russian army is concentrated at Smolensk, except the army corps of Wittgenstein, which is between Polotsk and St. Petersburg; that General Latour-Maubourg has gone to St. Pobolof, between Bobruisk and Borysthenes, having posts vis-à-vis Mozyr and Bobrouisk.

Pass 10,000 francs to Rear Admiral Baste, He must. There is a payer in Vilna, Use this means or whatever else you think is most expedient. Pass the attached letter to Colonel Deponthon at Tilsit (1),

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

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1) This letter was not found, but it is known that it contained the order to Colonel Deponthon to go to the Duke of Taranto, to be employed at the siege of Riga,[122]

19044. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SOURAJE.

Vilebsk; August 5, 1812, six o'clock in the evening.

My Son, I receive your letter of August 5th. You do not let me know if the exaltation of the peasants beyond Velije is in ancient Poland or ancient Russia. Check the fact. If this peasant revolt were to take place in ancient Russia, it might be considered as a very advantageous thing and from which we would be honored. Porietche is already in ancient Russia. Give me some information on this, and let me know what kind of decree and proclamation could be done to excite the revolt of peasants in Russia and to rally them.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19045.- TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUIHIOVNA.

Vilebsk, August 5, 1812.

Cousin, I receive your letter from Doubrovna on the 4th of August at eight o'clock in the evening. The Duke of Taranto entered Dinabourg; After having worked for three years in this place, the enemy thought it expedient to evacuate it. He was able to seize eight pieces of cannon. I look forward to the result of your calls. I suppose that one day you will be happy with General Dessaix, who is a good soldier. Send me the sketch of the positions where you are, with your bridges on the Dnieper and the works you have built. The enemy being entirely assembled at Smolensk, we must be very attentive, because after a few days' rest he might attempt some operation. It must be easy for Mohilef to send agents and spies; do not spare them, so you know what's going on.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

19046.-TO CAPTAIN OF HAUTPOUL,
EMPEROR'S ORDER OF THE EMPEROR, IN VITEBSK,

Vitebsk, August 5, 1812.

Hautpoul's orderly officer will go to Ostrovno and from there to Biechenkovichi. He will see Ostrovno if the village is rehabilitated and if there is a local commander to reorganize it. He will see in Biechenkovilchi[123]

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if the bridges are made and if a bridge of rafts has been substituted for the easel bridge, which would not withstand the first floods of the river; he will see if we have worked at the beachhead. He will see the hospital, the handling, the shops, and finally if the country begins to reorganize itself. He will report to me the troops that are there, as well as convoys and troops he meets, whether cavalry, artillery, infantry or military crews. He will see Biechenkovitchi the 4th regiment of chasseurs of the Guard and the battalion of Hesse-Darmstadt, to whom I have ordered to remain in position until further notice; There must also be several pieces of artillery. It will be necessary to take care that all this is in position, and that one works at the bridgehead, in order to finish it. He will inquire whether there is any news of the Cossacks, and if it is necessary, he will one day remain with Biechenkovitch, in order to see everything and to send his despatch; he will write to me from this place, taking care to hand over his letter to the first courier who will pass,

From Biechenkovitchi, he will continue his journey on Polotsk, from where he will send me his second despatch. He will see the fortifications of the city, the hospital, the handling. He will let me know how many prisoners have been made - the Duke of Reggio, to the various affairs which have just taken place, how many wounded, all that he will be able to learn about these matters, and the position of the duke of Reggio's corps. The Duke of Taranto having taken Dinabourg, Hautpoul's orderly officer will inquire whether the communication between the two corps has taken place. He will take all the information that will make me aware of the nature of the forces opposed to the Duke of Reggio. He will remain with this marshal, to whom he will hand the attached letter, until he has attacked the enemy, cleared the right bank, and made his communication with Dinabourg.

NAPOLEON;

From the original comm. by General Marquis d'Hautpoul.

19047. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Vitebsk. August 6, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, I have sent word to you that I desired that a brigade of six cohorts of the National Guard, taking cohorts composed of old Frenchmen, should go to Bremen. This measure seems to me more urgent than ever. You will take special care of this organization. You will advance, to replace this brigade[124]

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at Utrecht and in the 24th military division, the brigade which is at Le Havre, so that, if Hamburg were attacked, this brigade could also come to the aid of the 32nd military division; the arriving case, you would send a general of division to command these two brigades.

Order General Heudelet to bring his headquarters to Hamburg and to reunite his division between Hamburg and Mecklenburg. Two half brigades may be in Mecklenburg and three in Hamburg and Lübeck. The Erfurt Brigade must have traveled to Swedish Pomerania to join the Morand Division. Press as far as possible the formation of the Hendelon Division Dragoons and Artillery Division. By this means there would be in Hamburg five provisional half-brigades and six cohorts of national guard, independently of the six other cohorts, who from Holland would be ready to go there. The Morand division would have twelve battalions in Pomerania and the Duke de Castiglione would have in his hand two divisions ready to go to the point of danger.

Landing can only take place on the side of Lübeck, in Mecklenburg or in Swedish Pomerania. It would not be natural to have a landing which would compromise the Prussians. It is therefore proper that General Heudelet himself recognize Lübeck and Mecklenburg, have his division in his hand, and get along with General Morand in order to be able to be rescued promptly.

You did not call me if the Duke de Castiglione had left Paris. Be sure to send him an artillery general.

Send two new line artillery companies into the 32nd Military Division to serve as needed.

Hold your hand so that the cohort officers, the corps officers and the artillery officers are at their posts.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19048. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, VILNA

Vitebsk, August 6, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I want you to ask Prussia that if there is a raid in Pomerania, or in Mecklenburg, or Hamburg, he will send from Potsdam, or any other place, a brigade of 1,000 horses and twelve pieces of light artillery which will be under the orders of the Duke de Castiglione.

NAPOLEON.

From the original Comm. by the Duke of Bassano,[125]

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19049. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitehsk, August 6, 1812

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I wish you to have the governor general order Kovno to order that all the military crewed wagons pass should be loaded with rice, until has exhausted all the rice in the shops of Kovno, and, in the absence of rice, biscuit. If these cars are loaded with flours, they will leave their flours in Kovno. See also the governor general for measures to be taken to store in Kovno, in churches and convents, all that has happened by the Niemen, and that the boats are sent. We must take all the convents at Kovno, whether they have been destined for hospitals, for the Guard, or for anyone; the main thing is that without delay everything is covered. Have Kovno write to send food on Vilna, Grodno, Bialystok and even Warsaw. What is very important is that all the boats at Kovno be returned and become available again to bring back the oats and all that can be taken from Danzig and Konigsberg. So stir up this government commission, which really does not do anything; it is ridiculous that there is only such a small amount of wheat in their stores.

The prisoners that the Duke of Reggio made in Polotsk are directed to Vilna. I want you to have them questioned carefully, to know which regiment, what division and which corps they are. I send you a letter that you write the Riga Consul. It is necessary that this consul should immediately join the Duke of Taranto. Send his memorial to the Duke of Taranto.

NAPOLEON.

P.S. The Governor General, who commands all the governments of Lithuania, General Hogendorp, will assist the Governing Commission and will now execute its various provisions in Grodno, Bialystok and elsewhere.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

19050. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SOURAJE.

Vitebsk, August 6, 1812, five o'clock in the afternoon.

My Son, I suppose you do not have any sick people in Souraje;[126]

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that you have at least only patients whom you can quickly evacuate, since it is important that you are always able to evacuate quickly the whole country, without leaving anything there. Let me know when you can have bread for eight or ten days, when all your carriages are sufficiently rested and when you can walk on Smolensk. My intention is to march to the enemy, probably to the left bank of the Borysthenes, to remove Smolensk, and to give battle to the Russian army, if it wishes to hold in the position it is.

Do you have your reserve ball games? I saw yesterday your reserve park at the position you occupied near Vitebsk: it expects at every moment a large amount of cars. Let me know if you hope to receive some more reinforcements and rally many of your troops.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19051. - TO MARSCHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vitehsk, August 6, 1812.

Cousin, I ordered Gudin's division to go to Babinovichi. Leave her in this place, because he will find more facilities for subsistence; Click will be there at your command. I want to know when two strong bridges will be established at Orcha, if there are bridges at Doubrovna, finally if there are any between the Berezina and Rossasna.

Let me know your opinion on this question: is it more useful to walk on Smolensk by the right bank than by the left bank? What is the nature of the country? Are there any resources to feed the cavalry, and supplies for the infantry? If I resolve to march along the left bank, the cavalry of the King of Naples, the viceroy, the third corps, will have to cross the Borysthenes between Rossasna and Berezina. This would require strong and numerous bridges. During this time, you would be on Krasnoi with the corps of General Grouchy, the 8th and the 5th corps. What should the 5th Corps do? You would then have under your orders the divisions Compans, Gudin, Dessaix and Claparède, which must make more than 30,000 infantrymen. The 8th corps must be 10,000 men, and the 5th corps 20,000 men; you would then have 60,000 infantrymen, The Prince's Cavalry[127]

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Poniatowski, that of General Grouchy, yours, the division Valence and the corps of General Latour-Maubourg should make more than 12,000 cavalry men. Your only army would be more than 80,000 men. The corps of the Duke of Elchingen, the corps of the Viceroy, the cavalry of the King of Naples, the Guards, and the Morand and Friant Divisions should make more than 100,000 men. Let me know if your troops will be able to get food for eight or ten days, if there are enough bridges and solid bridges to pass the cavalry, so that the passage does not make the parade at any point of the Borysthenes . I am waiting for the call of your different corps.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

19052. - TO M. BARBIER, LIBRARIAN OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

Vilebsk, August 7, 1812.

The Emperor would like to have some amusing books. If there were some good new novels, or older that he did not know, or memories of a pleasant reading, you'd better send them to us, because we have moments of leisure that it is not easy to fill here.

By order the Emperor, the secretary of the wallet.

Meneval.

Excerpt from the original comm. by Mr. Louis Barbier.

19033. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitebsk, August 7, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, let me know where the formation of the Lithuanian troops is. The arms arrived at Kovno. I would like to know when these regiments will be sufficiently trained to make the garrisons of Vilna, Kovuo, Minsk, and Grodno, so that I may withdraw all the troops I have in these different places. Are the five regiments whose formation has been ordained for all Lithuania, or only for the government of Vilna?

NAPOLEON,

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[128]

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19054. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitebsk, August 7, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, tell Governor General Hogendorp that it is necessary that he write to me every day by the courier on what is happening in his government, regardless of the accounts he makes to the state- Staff. Tell him that, as Drissa is in his government, it would be good for him to send a battalion with sappers to demolish the entrenched camp of the Russians. It would be necessary that this battalion carry with it four or five hundred tools; by staying eight or ten days in Drissa, he would finish this work. I attach importance to this entrenched camp being completely destroyed.

When the Duke de Bellune has arrived at Tilsit, send for him to inform you of the time when the different battalions will arrive there.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19055. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vilebsk, August 7, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I wish you to see whether the two or three hundred old model carriages which were left at Vilna exposed to the air have been shut up in a church or at the arsenal. If it had not been done yet, the governor should do it.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duc de Bassano.

19056. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 7, 1812.

Cousin, answer to the Duke of Reggio that the state of situation he has recovered from the corp of Wittgenstein contains a double use; that the four regiments of foot-chasseurs commanded by General Koulnicf are regiments of the 5th and 14th divisions, that is to say the 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th; that, since the campaign, the Russians have made use of mingling the light infantry with the cavalry to form their advanced guards, and consequently these regiments do not disgrace; that the corps of General Sazonof, commanding the[129]

14th Division (Navaginsky, Tenginsky, Tukoskoi and Esthlandskoi, precisely the regiments of the 14th Division), are still a double employment; that the corp of Wittgenstein would be reduced to three divisions, that is to say, eighteen regiments or fifteen thousand men, supposing, as far as possible, that the division is there; but the two light infantry regiments of the 7th division are not there, so that it would only be 14,000 men; that it is possible that Prince Repnine had six reserve battalions composed of companies of the 3rd battalions, that we have no information on this, that about this number of the 3rd battalions was at Dinabourg, that he It is possible that the grenadiers of these 3rd battalions were withdrawn, that this would not be more than a force of 17 to 18,000 infantrymen.

You will add to the Duke of Reggio that in no country have we followed the Russian corps with more attention, and that we are perfectly acquainted with their organization; that everything leads one to think that he has not more than 20,000 men before him. However, what inconvenience was there in him remaining in his position at Bielaya and seeing the enemy unfolding on the defile? He could have counted it then. Since then, how difficult was it to stay in Polotsk, covered by a few glasses that he could do in one night? In a good position he could not fear a corp which would have been even superior to him by a third; finally, after he had seen the enemy and assured himself of his very great superiority, was he not always able to retire and to repair his bridges? But this very slight manner of compromise compromises the general operations, since it can lead the Emperor to do false things. movements: and if we were not very superior in strength to the enemy, the retrograde movement of the 2nd corps on Polotsk would be a real fault. After the beautiful victory he had obtained, it is surprising that it was the enemy who remained master of the battlefield, He recoiled, the enemy advanced, the enemy knew that two divisions had passed the Dvina he has advanced even more. War is a matter of opinion, and the art was to preserve the opinion he had for him, after the great advantage he had gained.

Be careful to point out to the Duke of Reggio that Prince Repnine is only a general-major, and can command only one brigade.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[130]

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19057. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 7, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Reggio that the prisoners who said they heard the cannon on our left were right; that the Duke of Taranto, who was at Dinabourg, will have followed the enemy, which will have given rise to this cannonade; that the aide-de-camp Philipof, already on his way to Vilna, can no longer be exchanged, since he is on the rear of our armies, and has seen our movements; that his answer to prisoner Vadbousky is correct; that we do not have the right to send parliamentarians when we fight.

Tell him that the regimental artillery must be preserved as it is formed, that one can not have too many pieces of cannon, and that I disapprove of all that he has done to send these pieces to the rear. Recommend to him to cure this artillery, instead of letting it be disorganized; that I hope that with his fine division of cuirassiers he will give Wittgenstein a fine thrust, and that as soon as he has been broken he will lead him far.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19058. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK,

Vitebsk. August 8, 1812,

My cousin, order that all that belongs to the Guard and which is at Biechenkovitchi leave at two o'clock after midnight, to be returned here the day after tomorrow early.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19039. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vitebsk, August 9, 1812, two o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, please send me the route of a Babinovitchi road to Rossusna, or any other more direct point to go from Vitebsk to Smolensk, so that from Vilebsk you can go to the Dnieper in three days and arrive sixth before Smolensk. I also ask you to let me know the roads that[131]

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could communicate from Liozno and Roudnia to Smolensk. I want to know the nature of this country. I beg you to trace to me the road that Prince Poniatowski could take to reach Krasnoi in three or four days; the main road would take him in three days to Mstislavl, and four or five to Svirinkovo, on the road from Smolensk to Roslavl; this march would be advantageous and would allow us to arrive on two columns to avoid a strong enough position that the enemy has in front of Smolensk; this path would turn it. Remains to know the intermediate communications of Liady to Smolensk and between Liady and Sviériakovo, always on Smolensk. I wait, to fix the moment when I will pass the Dnieper, to know the one where your bridges will be finished and where you will have ovens in Doubrovna.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

19060. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SOURAJK.

Vitebsk, August 9, 1812, two o'clock in the morning.

My Son, it is possible that from Suraje you can go to the Dnieper, passing through Kolychki and Rossasna, to maneuver with the army on the left bank of the river; in this case, secretly recognize the roll, its nature and the number of days necessary for walking. I do not need to tell you that, in this hypothesis, we can not leave a garrison at Souraje; you have to evacuate everything on Vitebsk.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. the Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19061. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th (1) CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT SOVRAJK.

Vitebsk. August 9, 1812, five o'clock in the morning,

My son, the enemy was yesterday in great force vis-à-vis Inkovo, which decided me to gather the army at Liozno, where is the Duke of Elchingen. The divisions Friant, Morand and Gudin set off this malignant. Get on your side and meet near Liozno. Send an aide-de-camp to the Duke of Elchingen to find out what is going on, and direct yourself to very small or

1) The 6th Corps was placed, since August 7, under the command of General Gouvion Saint-Cyr.[132]

big days, according to what will have happened today. If it is an offensive movement of the enemy, arrive as vile as you can; if, on the contrary, it is only a reconnaissance of cavalry, make your movement a day, but do it gently, my intention being to continue these movements to march on Smolensk. Leave a rear guard of infantry and cavalry as long as possible at Souraje; try not to leave anyone on your right. A rear guard of infantry and cavalry seems to be necessary to Souraje again for several days. Let me know all your dispositions. I do not need to repeat to you to send to the King of Naples and the Duke of Elchingen to know what is going on in order to regulate your movements.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S, A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19062. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 9, 1812.

My Cousin, once the movement on Smolensk is decided, it will be necessary that the communication of Smolensk with Vilna is done by Minsk, since this new direction will be only 116 leagues and that of Smolensk with Vilna by Vitebsk and Gloubokoie in The country is better, it has not been started, and we will have landmark Borisof and Minsk, which are two major cities. It is therefore necessary to write to the governor of Minsk to take in advance his measures to organize this road well and that the passage of troops and prisoners can be done without attracting disorder in the country. This new route will also offer the advantage of a direction from Minsk to Warsaw without passing Vilna: from Smolensk to Warsaw, there will be only 225 leagues.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19063. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vitebsk, August 9, 1812.

Cousin, I want you to give me lessons on a road that would follow the left bank of the Dnieper three or four leagues away, and pass through Savvya, Romanovo, Gorodok,[133]

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Palkino, Montchina, etc. This route, if it exists, would turn all the small streams which pour their waters to the left bank of the Dnieper.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl,

19064. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitebsk. August 9, 1812,

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I receive your letters of August 6th. I hope that at the moment he is the Duke of Reggio will have his open communication with the Duke of Taranto. General Wittgenstein was wounded in action at Orissa; General Koulnief was killed; he was a cavalry officer who is regretted by the Russians. The fatigues put a little delay in the march of the Duke of Reggio; it is a few steps from ..... (1). The enemy made a strong attack on the Sehastiani division, eight leagues from Smolensk. There were a lot of saber-strokes given without much result. The enemy had 10,000 men of cavalry against this single division. I intend to march on Smolensk to see if the enemy wants to wait for us, which seems quite probable, since his meeting with Bagration is done and he has little more to wait. Have the Duke of Reggio's prisoners questioned as they arrive, so that they may be well acquainted with the troops that Wittgenstein had. Press as far as possible for food and for the rear stages to be abundantly provided; it is the only way to maintain order and tranquility on the rear.

Once we are in Smolensk, it is possible that the road passes through Oreha and Minsk. From Smolensk to Vîlna by Minsk there are only 116 leagues, and from Smolensk to Vilna by Gloubokoie there are 136. It is therefore necessary that the road from Vilna to Minsk is perfectly organized for the stages, as well as that of Minsk to Oreha.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. I send you letters of service that I opened.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

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1) Gap in the text.[134]

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19065. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitebsk, August 9, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, write to Danzig and Konigsberg for have all clothing depots removed, either from the Guard or the different corps of the army, because already the need for clothing effects and shoes begin to be felt; that all this follows boarded, transported on the Niemen and landed in Kovno. Write to Admiral Baste that he is doing his business with this movement, and that he will account for everything that happens. I wish you to write also to General Loison, at Konigsberg, to recommend to him that, in accordance with the orders I have given, the whole siege crew of Magdeburg, who was destined for the siege of Dinabourg, should enter Danzig. The half who was at Elbiug has already returned; the other half, who is at Konigsberg, must return at once. The prompt return of this crew will have two results: 1st complete the armament of Danzig; 2nd to prevent the enemy from seizing this crew, and to make the boats available to bring in clothing depots, which will be necessary. Send the admiral Baste to press the return of this crew under the cannon of Danzig.

Another important object that I want you to look at is to see if you could get a deal, either with Jews from the country or with people from Koeuigsberg, for transportation, from Kovno to Vitebsk and Smolensk, objects of clothing and sustenance that will be found in Kovno. The market would be made in cash, at so much per hundredweight. You will consult with the authorizing officer and the people of the country as to what a reasonable price to award, bearing in mind that two prices should be established, one by the end, the other by the moment of dragging. This is the best way to ensure that the effects of clothing, biscuits, rice, etc., which are in Kovno, come to us. They would have to undertake to put in motion so many quintals every day, and, in case the objects were to remain on the road, the price would be regulated according to the distance. You will notice that these valets could bring back salt from Vitebsk, Orcha and Borisof. We have an immense quantity for nearly 20 millions, and I am assured that the country of Konigsberg, Courland, and Samogitia derive their salt from here. See to combine line operation on it. It would also be necessary to make a market for the transport on Minsk, by Grodno, flours,[135]

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rice, clothing effects, etc., that we have in Warsaw, also establishing two prizes, one for the moment of trains and the other before the trains. The army having passed, the country must recover, and with the urgent one must find all that.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19066. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VANOVICHI.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812, one o'clock in the morning.

My Son, I have received your letter in which you make known to me that you will be at eight o'clock in the evening at Yanovichi. I received letters from the outposts of yesterday 9 at four o'clock in the afternoon. It appears that the enemy withdrew and that it was a cavalry affair, probably caused by the imprudence of General Sebastiani, who does not know how to keep himself in rest quarters and goes down to the plains where he believe that the enemy is not in force. So you are master of your movement of the day. Do what you think is most suitable for the good of your troops. The weather is so bad, and it's raining so much, that I am very sorry to see my troops moving at such a time.

Your movement has been abrupt. Rally all your detachments, remember all your people, and use the day to assemble, or walk at your will: you must be directed only by the interest of your troops.

I am not leaving the Guard today because of bad weather, but she will leave tomorrow.

Be careful to put a staff officer, with a stake, at the junction of the roads, to prevent your soldiers from continuing to go to Souraje; take the same precaution at the bridge on the road to Velije; for in truth they are without consideration, and when they see a bridge, they pass there, so that we lose in detail many people.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19067. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812, two o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, the movement of yesterday was provoked, it seems, by General Sebastiani, since I am writing outposts,[136]

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at four o'clock in the afternoon, let the enemy read it again. The Viceroy took his headquarters to Yanovichi and began his movement. I would like information on the routes from Liouhavitchi to Rossasna and from Bahinovichi to Rossasna. I would have sent all my Guard this morning, but it's raining so much that I'm delaying its movement for a day to let bad weather pass. I also remember the Friaut division, which, being well barred, is sheltered from the rain, but everyone is ready to leave. I am still undecided whether I will take the road to Liozno or Babinovitchi. I will decide what further news I receive from the enemy, and what information you will send me on the localities. It is necessary that General Latour-Maubourg should approach, so that I can bring his cavalry and even the infantry division to the battle, since, if the enemy holds Smolensk, as I am justified in thinking, it will be a decisive affair, and we can not be too busy. I suppose that, according to my order of yesterday, you will have supported Latour-Maubourg on Mohilef, and that all this could be done. It is necessary to Rossasna, where the army must pass, four bridges. Have all means prepared, without throwing these bridges, but so that your sappers and pontooners have in advance all that is necessary, and can throw these bridges as soon as the head of the left will appear, without unmasking the movement.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

19068. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812, in the morning..

My Cousin, I had ordered the divisions Gndin, Morand and Friant yesterday to go, one on Babinovitchi, the other on Poloviki and the other on Liozno, lest the enemy should take it. initiative. The enemy seeming to have withdrawn, I have ordered that these divisions take position between Liozno and Rossasna, so that they may meet them first. The bad weather decided me to retain the Friant division here. I think I'll be on the 13th or the 14th at Rossasna, with my guard and the whole army. It is therefore in the night of the 13th to the 14th that our four bridges must be thrown away, so that the Dnieper can not stop us. You have many means in the field of sappers and engineering equipment; bring all this forward on Rossasna.[137]

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It is probable that I will march on Smolensk with 200,000 men. Since you are in the country, study the paths a little to find out if you could not walk on three columns, one on the main road, one on the side of the waters of these small streams that pour into the Dnieper, and the third on the right, but not more than two or three leagues distant from each other. I recommend you to have a lot of ovens.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Mm, the Marechale Princess of Eckmühl,

19069. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812, in the morning,

Cousin, you have not yet sent me the call of the 8th Corps, the 5th Corps, or the 4th Cavalry Corps; send me these calls as soon as possible. You did not tell me if you have ovens in Orcha, Mohilef, Rossasna and Doubrovna. Please answer me as soon as possible. It would be very important to have ovens in Orcha, Doubrovna and Rossasna, especially in this latter town; if there were none, have twelve built. I asked a fortnight ago for 6,000 quintals of flour at Borisof: 2,000 have arrived here; I order that the other 4,000 be directed to Oreha. I ask 10,000 to Minsk, 4,000 to Sienno, and I send agents to organize these convoys and direct them to Orcha. All convoys of the army will change their route to Kamen and also go to Orcha. Can not we ask in Mohilef's government? It should, however, offer the resource of a few thousand quintals. It seems to me that since the 20th you have not sufficiently supplied your central point of Orcha or Kokhanovo. Make me a stage roll project from Kamen to Oreha. As soon as my movement is unmasked on Smolensk, Oreha will become the central point of the army, and it is probable that I will then take my direction by Borisof, Minsk and Vilna.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

19070. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812,

My Cousin, I ordered that a drum embracing several[138]

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crenellated and palisaded houses covered the head of the pilings, and could save 200 men from insult. The government will carry a piece of cannon to put on the main street of the suburb. We will put in the hospital and next to the handling of pieces of cannon to beat the plain.

Apart from the piling bridge, there is a raft bridge, which will be covered by this drum.

Give order to the pontooners who have stayed here to raise, in the day of tomorrow, one of the two raft bridges that the artillery has built more hus. This bridge will be transported against the bridge of stilts, but at the top, and will be parallel to the one on the right, so that the bridge of piles and the two rafts of rafts are covered all three by the same drum and defended the same guard, It will have to be done in the day of tomorrow, The day after tomorrow, after this work is finished, we will lift the fourth bridge and we will transport the parts near the two other raft bridges, to be used to enlarge them to as the river increases.

You will order General Chasseloup also to establish a drum at the small bridge placed on the ravine, which will be leaned against the new church, which will be crenellated and put in defense stall, so that 100 men with a piece of cannon can to be there in a good position.

I wish that another drum be established on the road of Souraje, in front of the gate, and that sixty men can be there sheltered from any insult of the light cavalry.

He must remain an officer of the engineers and an officer of the artillery command, attached to General Charpentier. The pontoon officer will be in charge of the care and maintenance of the two overwater bridges.

As soon as the eight furnaces started and completing the number of furnaces at twenty-four are completed, the builders will leave and follow the headquarters. The engineer officer will, with the sappers and some of the country's workmen, build the eight other ovens and complete the handling; twenty-four having already been made, the other eight are no longer in such a hurry, and I give him eight days to build them,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[139]

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19071. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Elchingen to let him know that the Viceroy has begun his movement; that the Morand, Gudin, and Friant Divisions have also had to set out; that my intention being to carry them on the Dnieper as soon as I am certain that the enemy does not wish to take the offensive, I desire him to place these three divisions in the places where he will judge that they will be able to live more easily between him and the Dnieper; that it would be possible for me to have my headquarters on the 14th at Rossasna, where there will be four bridges, that I pass the Dnieper, and that with nearly 200,000 men I am on Smolensk; that it is fitting that if on the day of the 10th it is proved that the enemy has no offensive plan, he diagonally runs back his reserve battery and his big park, between him and the Dnieper, so that nothing do not delay it.

Tell him that I wish him to make known to me the state of the losses his body has made in the day yesterday; that it would be necessary to replace the company of the 24th by forming another, that this loss is very unpleasant; that the duke of Reggio pursues Wittgenstein, that in his fight of the 1st of August he killed and took many people, that the enemy army appeared to be in consternation, that General-in-chief Wittgenstein was wounded and General Koulnief killed,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19072. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812.

Cousin, order General Chasseloup to leave tomorrow at two o'clock in the morning, with all the sappers, miners, Danube workers, caissons and engineering equipment, to go to Babinovitchi. General Kirgener and the sappers of the Guard will leave for the same occasion, as well as the two companies of sailors of the Guard. They will all have bread and meat for eight days. Two companies of sappers, of which one of the Guard, and a company of Danube workers, followed by the best harnessed caissons, will march on big days, in order to be returned in the day of the 13th at Rossasna.

Order General Éblé to walk with great days with[140]

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two companies of pontooners, in order to have arrived early on the 13th at Rossasna, and to get on the spot to throw four bridges there. Let me know when the deck crew and the engineer's equipment will arrive at Babinovitchi, so that I do not forget to give them orders. Order the small headquarters to leave tomorrow at break of day to be returned on the 12th to Babinovitchi.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19073. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk. August 10, 1812.

Cousin, write to the King of Naples that it is necessary that the corps of General Nilnsouty leave tomorrow to pass behind Roudnia, to be the 12th in Liubavitchi and to pass the Dnieper on the evening of the 13th. It will be necessary that the two divisions of cuirassiers of General Montbrun follow, on the 12th, the movement of General Nansouty, so that, on the evening of the 13th, they can pass the Dnieper. The Sebastiani division will serve as a curtain to cover this movement. Write to the viceroy that he directs his movement so that on the 13th he can pass the Dnieper on the side of Rossasna. Order the Duke of Danzig to leave at break of day tomorrow, with the division of the old Guard, to go to Babinovilchi in two days. You will inform the Prince of Eckmühl that the Friant, Morand, and Gudin divisions have orders to arrive on the 13th on the Dnieper; that General Eble, with the deck-crew and the equipment of the engineers, also arrives there by Babinovitchi; that the corps of General Nansouty arrives there by Liubavitchi as well as the viceroy and the third corps; that it is therefore proper for him to carry his headquarters to Rossasna, where he would assemble his five divisions with the Claparede division, the corps of General Grouchy, and his light cavalry covering both shores. It is necessary that on the evening of the 13th there should be at Rossasna four bridges, and two on the Liubavitchi road at Liady. At the same time, on the 13th, Prince Pouiatowski and the Duke of Abrantes must be in Romanovo, General Latour Maubourg occupying Mohilef, Mstisluvl, and Romnnovo, and ready to join us if necessary. It is likely that the 12th I will be of my person in Rossasna.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[141]

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19074. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk. August 10, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to General Guyon to bring his headquarters to-morrow in the suburb of Vitebsk, on the right bank. He will travel from his person to headquarters. You will let him know that he must continue the operation of the grains and flours that began the Guard, in order to supply the stores of Vilebsk. He must place one of his regiments on this shore, in order to have posts in front of the city and to light all the environs, either on the side of Souraje or on the side of Roudnia, the whole army being entirely the left bank of the Borysthenes, in the direction of Smolensk. He will be under the orders of General Charpentier, governor of the province, and will report to him. He will ensure that all the bridges made by the marauders, from here to Souraje, are destroyed. He will send reconnaissance on all the roads at daybreak, as well as agents of the country, in order to enlighten the environs of the city. He will inform General Charpentier of all that could interest the safety of this place of deposit. Let General Charpentier know that I leave this brigade under his command to enlighten the province. General Guyon will also have under his command the 200 Lancers who belong to the division Valence, and that he will keep until he can communicate with this division.

Leaks to know General Charpentier the situation of the Duke of Reggio and that of Biechenkovitchi, so that it puts in communication with these various points. It is necessary to give a strict order here that no soldier of the 4th corps, nor of the 3rd, nor of the cavalry, should go beyond Vitebsk, under the pretext of rejoining his corps; all these men must be held here and assembled in battalions and squadrons of march, to be directed by Babinovitchi on Doubrovna. Gendarmerie squads will be left in Vitebsk. Stations will be placed at the bridge, on the defile where the enemy was in position, in order not to allow any detachment to enter, and to inform them that all their corps are on the right. The execution of this measure can save many men; otherwise all the stragglers will go to the plain to be caught by enemy riders. I wish to leave here 3,000 garrison men. A sapper company and line of Danube workers will remain for the various jobs. I have destined the three battalions of the Vistula to form the garrison of this place; let me know when they[142]

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arrive. There is a marching regiment of three battalions which has been formed at Mainz, which has long been at Thorn, Konigsherg, and Vilna, which has departed from that town; let me know when he arrives here. I still leave the regiment of flankers of the Guard, which is 1,000 men. These combined forces will make nearly 4,000 men. I suppose there is here the commander of arms and the two adjutants of the place. A battalion of Hesse-Darmstadt and different detachments of the Guard will arrive successively tomorrow and the day after tomorrow; let me know their strength and the day of their arrival; I will leave them here, waiting for the battalions of the Vistula to arrive.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19075. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vilebsk, August 10, 1812.

Cousin, order Generals Friant, Gndin, and Morand to march in short hours, so as to arrive on the 13th between Liubavitchi and Rossasna, on the Dnieper, whence they will send officers to Prince Eckmühl, who is in Doubrovna, and from whom they will receive orders. They will also warn the Duke of Elchingen of their movement, so that, if any unforeseen event occurs, he may know where to find them.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19076. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812.

My cousin, I wish you to order that the 1,000 quintals of flour loaded on the cars of the 6th battalion of military crews leave for Babinovitchi at five o'clock in the morning; they will arrive there in two or, at most, three days. Order that the small headquarters, as I have settled, be ready to leave today at two o'clock in the afternoon. Give me the status of the staff and equipment at noon. Bakers and builders will stay today to continue the ovens and make bread. They will not leave until tomorrow.

Order General Chasseloup to be ready to leave tomorrow[143]

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all the personnel and the equipment of the engineers, except a company of sappers and one of workers of the Danube, who will remain for the bridges, the furnaces and the mills of Vitebsk. However, all staff will continue to work today. Give me at noon the state of what will leave.

Order General Éblé to leave today for Bahinovitrhi with thirty-two pontoons and the necessary tools and tackles. He will leave here a company to keep the rest of the deck crew. He will march half of the 4th battalion of crews of the navy and two companies of pontooners with the pontoons, and will gain the front with the rest of his world, equipped with tools and apparatus necessary to build raft bridges . He will let me know the moment of his arrival at Babinovitchi, as well as the arrival of the pontoons.

Order General Sorbier to march for Babinovitchi today with the three reserve batteries of the Guard.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19077. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vilebsk, August 10, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Loison to inform him that it is necessary to send a brigade of 2,000 men from the Prussian corps in the province of Konigsberg, with a bullet of artillery, to Memel. That would not count on the contingent, and would garrison Memel. He would prevent from this movement the Duke of Taranto and General Grawert, who by this means would be stronger before Riga.

Let General Loison know that I have difficulty in seeing the buildings which have been put in Pillau's pass, that he has them removed; that the only batteries are sufficient and that the buildings are useless; that, on the contrary, they will tempt the English to send boats at night to remove them; that it is therefore a bad disposition and an unnecessary expense.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[144]

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19078. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812, after noon.

My Cousin, Gudin's division is at Babinovitchi; the Morand division is three leagues behind Liozno; the Friant division is at Fulkovitchi. I have given the order that, in the day of tomorrow, 11 and the day after tomorrow, these three divisions will gradually approach the Borysthenes, so that they may be on the 13th at Rossasna. They will naturally be under your orders. Place them in good positions between Rossasna and Liozno.

The news I receive is that the enemy has withdrawn entirely; we pushed several leagues forward, and we did not find him.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. Madame la Marshal, Princess of Eckmuhl.

19079. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vilebsk, August 10, 1812, five o'clock in the evening.

Cousin, I see by your letter of the 9th, that the road to Doubrovna is the best; but it seems to me that from Babinovitchi to Doubrovna there is one league more than Babinovitchi to Rossasna, and that there are, besides, three leagues from Doubrovna to Rossasna. I would lose four hours or almost a walk. I prefer, therefore, to have bridges at Rossasna. I would also like to have some at the intersection of the Liubavichi Road in Liady on the Khomino side. On the 13th, the whole army will be on Rossasna. I lead the duke of Elchingen for Liubavichi on the intersection of the road vis-à-vis Liady, where he will lay a bridge; he will thus win Liady and form the vanguard. The Viceroy is heading to Rossasna by Liozuo, he will be there on the 13th. I have let you know that your fresh divisions are also heading to Hossasna. The Guard goes on Rossasna. It is possible that I entreat the Duke of Elchingen to make the vanguard, with the King of Naples commanding the corps of Grouchy, the corps of Nansouty, the corps of Montbrun, the light cavalry of the Duke of Elchingen and, if it is necessary, yours, that of the Viceroy, and that of the Guard. You will march after the Duke of Elchingen with your six divisions. The Viceroy will walk after you, and finally the Guard. Make it possible for Prince Poniatowski to be on the 13th, in Romanovo,[145]

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either to Baïévo. You will gather all the Westphalians behind the corps of Prince Poniatowski.

I could not have the state of Prince Poniatowski's corps; but I suppose that cavalry, infantry, and artillery, and reunited with the Duke d'Abrantes, must do well to 30,000 men. General Latour-Maubourg will occupy Mohilef and will be ready to join me, if it is necessary. He will then resume his position at Bobrouisk, where he may leave some moving columns; but it is good that his infantry and the bulk of his cavalry should be with him, so that he can join Prince Poniatowski to fight. I see with pleasure that tomorrow evening we will have ovens in Doubrovna. It would be useful to have some in Rossasna too. You do not let me know if you have any in Orcha, where it is also necessary to have some. Go to Rossasna on the 12th, and gather everything you have. As soon as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd divisions join you, give them their sappers; they have suffered a great deal from not having any.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

19080. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VANOVICHI.

Vitebsk, August 10, 1812.

My Son, I receive your letter of the 10th. I approve that your corps will meet tomorrow in Velechkovichi, so as to be on the 13th in Rossasna, where I will be in my person. Get ahead of your pontooners, sailors, and sappers, so that when you arrive at Liubavichi, if it were suitable, instead of going to Rossasna, you can pass on the Liubavichi road to Liady, where you would lay a bridge . It is necessary that your rear guard, who is in Souraje, stay there until the 14th, that is to say until the moment when the offensive movement will be strongly pronounced. He will be able to reach you by the road that you will have taken, and, in case of event, to throw herself on Vilebsk.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.[146]

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19081. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTHE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Vitebsk. August 10, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, I believe I have sent you to send six cohorts of old Frenchmen to Bremen. I still believe that I have sent you to send a second brigade of cohorts, the one at Utrecht, to Bremen, and send the brigade to Paris at the same time. These eighteen cohorts, to defend the 32nd Division, would then be at the disposal of the Duke of Castiglione.

I think I told you to send two more line artillery companies into the 32nd Military Division, in addition to the 9th, independently of the cohort artillery companies. I think it is fitting today that you have two other line artillery companies leave for Swedish Pomerania. If they are too much, they will serve for Stettin. Send one more to Magdeburg and one more to Spandau. It will be six companies of artillery of line which you weaken the interior. In the project which you send me, and to which I will reply shortly, you propose to draw twenty; so there will be no problem.

I recommend that you pay special attention to the 11th Corps. Send in a good chief of staff, the generals of engineers and artillery who are needed, and a good officer. Send two companies of sappers and one of pontooners. Each of the first three divisions of the Duke of Castiglione must have two batteries of sixteen pieces of artillery hitched. The 4th division, which is that of General Morand (Joseph), has Hessian artillery; thus the artillery of the 11th corps would consist of forty-eight French and eight Hessian pieces.

If the descent took place in Pomerania, the Duke of Castiglione could fire ammunition from Stettin, Spandau and Magdeburg.

If the descent took place in the 32nd Military Division or in Mecklenburg, Stettin and Magdeburg would still be within reach of these different points; but it is necessary that the marshal should have a commander of engineers near him, and that you should make an instruction for each one, which will show them the resources of artillery and engineers which are in these places. I do not know if Coeverden and Delfzyl, in case the war takes place in Hamburg, could not provide some resources.

General Heudelet must have an engineer officer and two[147]

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artillery. I suppose General Morand already has them. Finally, in case of descent, you must order the general commanding the 32nd division and the prefects of this division to supply by requisition the horses necessary to harness sixteen other pieces and to carry the artillery of the division Heudelet to thirty-two pieces.

Ask General Morand to arrange carriages for sixteen pieces of cannon; he will make the necessary requisitions in the country. Hannover and Mecklenburg could also arrange requisition teams for the other two divisions. Finally, take care of this Army Corps. It is not that I believe that the Russians, in the present moment when our outposts are only 80 leagues from Moscow, and where we are going to besiege Riga, can diversion on this side, but it is appropriate to be able.

I fired the crew of Magdeburg for the armament of Danzig, which was not strong enough. This crew had become useless since the occupation of Dinabourg.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19082. - TO THE MOLLIEN COUNTY, MINISTER OF THE TREASURY, IN PARIS.,

Vitrbsk, August 10, 1812,

Monsieur the. Count Mollien, I received the balance of the treasure for the first six months of the year. I could not read it with all the attention I wanted to give it. The rights collected and the registration must render what they promised; Customs alone are doubtful. Talk to the trade minister to stop our thoughts on this. As for the 40 million of the extraordinary, they will be covered either by 40 million goods of the Roman states, or by 40 million produced by the country. Because, as the treasury makes budgets for the army, the recipes that will make the army will enter the treasure. Be careful that these are imputed on the extraordinary.

I hit 2 million rubles on the Courland; about one million rubles were found in the boxes; it is true that it is only paper, but it is still 3 million francs.

I have considerable salt stores in Borisof, I have here for 15 to 20 million. I am assured that at the time of the dragging, the Courlande will come to take them. It would be good for the Minister of the Navy to take advantage of this circumstance to procure masts; I do not have time to write to the Minister of the Navy; see it for that.[148]

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These masts would still be a resource, as they could be paid for by the navy budget. Write to the payer here for the country's receipts to be kept in a special account and to instruct you. You will be careful to communicate to him the expenses that you will make by the budget, with regard to the depreciation of values.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.

19083. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Vitebsk. August 11, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, write to my minister in Berlin to ask that in case of descent on any point of the coast the King of Prussia should supply a thousand horses and twelve pieces of artillery, either Holberg or Graudenz. Write to my minister at Dresden, that in the same case Saxony should furnish two battalions of infantry, a regiment of cuirassiers, and twelve pieces of cannon. Write to Stuttgart for two infantry battalions, a cavalry regiment, and twelve pieces of cannon. Write to Munich for four battalions, a regiment of cavalry, and twelve pieces of cannon; in Baden to supply an infantry battalion, 500 horses, and six pieces of cannon. Ask these different troops to be ready to march at the first request of the Duke of Castiglione. You will instruct my ministers to let you know if we can count on this, and if we can even hope; more.

Write to Count Saint-Marsan that it would be proper for the Prussian court to write in Stockholm that the slightest enterprise against the continent would be in Prussia, Pomerania, or the 32nd Military Division, which would disturb the the tranquility of Germany would provoke the march of 30,000 Prussians from Silesia and other parts of the kingdom. This step taken by the King at Stockholm, and notified to the Swedish Minister at Berlin, might be useful. There is no fear of what the Swedes can do with the English and the Russians, but a notification of this kind, sustained in a proud and firm tone, might remove any idea of disturbing Germany.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[149]

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19084. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 11th 1812.

My Cousin, the 6th battalion of military crews left yesterday with 1,000 quintals of flour: it must arrive this evening at Babinovitchi. Order this convoy to continue its journey to Doubrovna, where I wish it to have arrived tomorrow, 12 or at the latest, the day after tomorrow. 13. Instruct the Prince of Eckmühl with this movement, and let him know that the flour belong to the Guard.

Order General Eblé to direct the pontoons on Doubrovna, because this way is the best; but that he, with his light crew, is on Rossasna; that I wish it to be early on the 13th, at Rossasna, so that in the night it will establish four rafts of bridges. Instruct Prince Eckmühl with the arrival of General Eblé at Rossasna and that of the pontoons by Doubrovna.

Order General Chasseloup to go to Rossasna with his engineering crew, and be there on the 13th, to work promptly with him. General Eblé to establish four bridges for the passage of the army.

Instruct again the Prince of Eckmühl with the arrival of General Chasseloup, informing him that the genie's crew has about fifty wagons and 7 to 800 men; that it is up to him to protect all this and to direct them differently, if there was any danger.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19085. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 11, 1812.

My cousin, order the commander of the 32nd military division to send forthwith the Monsieur Bourrienne of Hamburg and the 32nd military division, and send him back to France under penalty of being arrested twenty-four hours after service of this order.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[150]

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19086. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, A VITEBSK.

Vilebsk, August 11, 1812.

Cousin, it follows from a statement given yesterday by the Intendant General that the 3rd and 5th companies of the 14th Battalion of the Military Crews were to arrive on the 9th at Vitebsk with 165 wagons, carrying 900 quintals of flour; that the 3rd and 5th companies of the 7th battalion were to arrive on the 10th with 25 wagons carrying 112 quintals; that the 6th Company of the 20th Battalion was to arrive on the 10th with 44 wagons and 257 quintals of flour; that the 2nd company of the 6th battalion, having 61 wagons and 365 quintals, was to arrive on the 10th; that so between 9 and 10, 295 wagons carrying 1, 634 quintals of flour had to arrive. Let me know if there are news of these wagons, and when they arrive; have the situation of the commander of the place removed to find out where they are.

The 1st Company of the 6th Battalion, with 22 wagons carrying 76 quintals. of flour, 28 of rice and 7,000 rations of biscuit bread, had to arrive on the 8th; the 1st company of the 7th battalion, with 18 cars carrying 135 quintals, had to arrive on the 8th; the 6th Company of the 14th Battalion, having 90 wagons and 220 quintals of flour, had to arrive on the 8th; the 5th Company of the 16th Battalion, having 63 wagons and 178 quintals of flour, had to arrive on the 9th; so on the 8th and the 9th, 193 wagons weighing 6 to 700 quintals were to arrive.

Finally, on the 12th, which is today, it should have arrived 900 wagons carrying 440 quintals of flour, 220 quintals of rye, 28 quintals of rice; which, together with the 243 wagons that are here, the 80 of the headquarters and the 60 wagons of the 6th battalion that left, which makes 383 wagons, would make 1,283 wings present to the army; which would not stop being a considerable resource.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19087. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LIOZNO.

Vitebsk. August 12, 1812, three o'clock in the morning.

My Son, the King of Naples is today in Lioubavilchi. He has all the edges of little Berezina occupied. The Bruyère division occupies Roudnia. Your movement will be behind the curtain. It is[151]

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it is very necessary that you send officers with small patrols on the road from Yanovichi to Vilebsk, and that your rear-guard, who is at Souraje, also send them on the road to Vitebsk, to retreat to Vitebsk all the isolated stragglers, even telling them that the enemy is coming, to frighten them: it is indispensable to save many people who would be caught. Another way is to walk slowly and to keep all your people together. One must even leave a rear guard at Liozno, if the Duke of Elchingen has not left one, to rally behind the trainers. I leave General Guyon at Vitebsk to beat the plain. I ordered him to communicate with the commander of your rear-guard at Souraje. Recommend this commander to remove the bridge over the Dvina.

I will be only on the 13th, at noon, at Babinovitchi. If there were anything very important, send it to Babinovitchi in duplicate and, in the event of any circumstance delaying my departure, to Vitebsk.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S.A. I. Mrs. Duchess Leuchtenberg.

19088. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vitebsk, August 12, 1812, three o'clock in the morning.

My Cousin, the King of Naples will be today at 12 noon, in Liubavichi. Your three divisions, the Duke of Elchingen and the Viceroy, everything is moving on the Dnieper. The Guard will be in Babinovilchi today. I suppose you set the 8th and 5th corps in motion. General Eble must be in Rossasna tomorrow with all means to build bridges. The bridge crew, which will probably arrive on the 14th, will be going to Doubrovna, it is also on Doubrovna that I have driven various wagons laden with flour. The major-general must have informed you of all this. Will I leave this evening to go to Babinovitchi; perhaps I will not leave until tomorrow 13. In any case, I wish to find one of your officers at Habinovitchi who knows all the roads and can give me information on the places where you are and on the position of all the troops.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.[152]

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19089. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK,

Vitebsk, August 12, 1812,

Cousin, send an officer to the Duke of Reggio to inform him that we have not received his letters since that of the 8th at nine o'clock in the morning; that reports would make me think that troops of Wittgenstein's corps are in motion to win Nevel and Velije; that I shall have my headquarters at Doubrovna, on the Borysthenes, on the 20th, and that the army, on the right bank of the Borysthenes, will march on Smolensk; that there is at Vitebsk only a garrison of 3,000 men; that it is, therefore, necessary that he should always cover this place against the aggressions of the corps of Wittgenstein, and especially that he gives us news every day; that this way of remaining three or four days without writing is quite contrary to the good of the service; that he must have corresponded with the Duke of Tarentum, who is at Dinabourg, and has assembled all his 7th division there.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19090. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 12, 1812

Cousin, give orders to the Duke of Danzig to leave tomorrow at Babinovitchi's daybreak to go, by Sitna, to the Dnieper, opposite Rossasna, in accordance with the sketch attached. There he will find General Grouchy and Prince Eckmühl. The Duke of Treviso will follow this same movement, as well as the small headquarters, the engineering park and the deck crew.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19091. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 12, 1812.

My Cousin, write to the Duke of Castiglione that you do not understand how he says that he has not a single cavalryman, since he has a handsome Saxon regiment of 700 men which will be supplied to him as soon as he has need, but which at present serves the guard of the King of Saxony; that he has a dragon regiment in Hanover, already strong[153]

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800 men and will soon be 1,600; that as for military expeditions of 60,900 men, this is absurd; that the English and the Russians have other things to think than to make descents; that Sweden, if she will attempt anything, will attack Norway, that in all cases this power can not expose more than 15,000 men; that it is necessary, however, that he go and inspect the coast, that he review the troops, and recognize the localities himself.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19092. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 12, 1812.

Cousin, I asked Borisof 6,000 quintals of flour: 2,000 have arrived; the 4,000 other must be directed to Orcha. If this convoy was already on its way, it would be necessary to order that from where it was to be met it should be directed to Orcha or Babinovitchi. I also had ways to live in Lepel; we must direct them on Orcha. Finally the district of Sienno is in good condition; send a staff officer with stewards to requisition 4,000 quintals of flour and direct them to Orcha.

As for the road of the army, make study a road which Kamen comes to Orcha. By this means, all the detachments which are now en route to come to Vitebsk will join me much more quickly. I think that from Kamen to Sien no and Sien no to Orcha there is a good way and a good country. Draw the road and have it organized. Orcha must be considered as the fulcrum of the army as soon as I have passed the Dnieper and will be on Smolensk. Write to Minsk, the governor, that I need 10,000 quintals of flour, that he needs them and directs them immediately to Orcha. Also ask for 50,000 pints of brandy.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19093. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 12, 1812.

Cousin, I have just seen an order which the major of the crews has just given to two companies, to go to the quarter[154]

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general of the 3rd corps. This order is absurd, since the headquarters of a corps changes at every moment; he left the officer in uncertainty about what he had to do; so he was going to take the wrong direction. Major crews must not give any departure order; but he must go to the general staff to ask for the order, and when the staff is not there, he must address the commander of the place, otherwise the greatest disorder would exist. If, instead of giving this ridiculous order, the Major had come to the General Staff, he would have received a departure order for Babinovich and Doubrovna. All movement orders must come. the General Staff or the Commanding Officer; otherwise, all movements could not be communicated to all the heads of service, it would result a lot of confusion. Give orders and take steps to prevent this from happening.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19094. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, A. VITEBSK.

Vitebsk, August 12, 1812,

My cousin, order that 243 wagons of the military crews belonging to different battalions, and which are here empty and available, leave at two o'clock, They will go by Babinovichi on Doubrovna, A commissioner of wars and transport agents will be placed at the head of this convoy; a detachment of gendarmerie and some troops will be part of it, they will collect all that they can find on the road in flour, wheat, rye and oats. You will recommend that these wagons do not waste time en route; they will be necessary for us, both to take advantage of what will be in the localities, for the ambulances and the transport of the wounded.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19095. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Vitebsk, August 12, 1812, five o'clock in the evening.

Cousin, I will be at Babinovitchi at daybreak, where I hope to find one of your officers, who will let me know the way I must take and the place where the troops are, You can do[155]

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to advance your troops on the main road as far as Rossasna, that is, as far as Koziany on the small Rossasna River. As it appears that the enemy will wish to defend the little river of Mereya, the border of ancient Russia, it will be fair that Prince Poniatowski and the Duke d'Abrantes should be placed in such a way as to compromise nothing. Send an officer to the King of Naples, who must be at noon today at Liouhavitchi. You will let him know that I will be at Rossasna tomorrow, and that if he hears of the Viceroy and the Duke of Elchingen he will give you some. All indications are that there will be a great battle in Smolensk; we need hospitals. It is needed in Orsha, Doubrovna, Mohilef, Kokhanovo, Bohr, Borisof and Minsk. Choose locations for Doubrovna and Orcha. Find out if there is a convent or a large castle between Douhrovna and Smolensk. The General Headquarters departs at five o'clock in the morning for Douhrovna; he will be there in three days, that is to say on the 15th. Take care that your sappers and furnace builders speak, as soon as the vanguard has passed, for Liady, in order to build on them field ovens. I suppose that you brought your general park, as well as those of Prince Poniatowski and the 8th Corps, to Doubrovna, so that they could go up five or six leagues backwards, and repair all the ammunition losses which the we will do during the battle.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

19096. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, VILNA

Vitebsk. August 12, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, let me know when I will be able to withdraw from Kovno, Minsk, Grodno and Vilna the various troops that I have there, and replace them by the new Lithuanian troops, for the police and the guard of the deposits.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

19097. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Bivouac of Boyarintsova, between Krasnoî and Siniaki, August 15, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I am in Krasnoi; I'm walking on Smolensk. It is possible that there will be tomorrow or after a big[156]

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battle. A vanguard case took place yesterday: the 27th Russian division was crushed; eight pieces of cannon, including six of 12 and two howitzers, were taken; 1,200 to 1,500 prisoners were there. The opinions of the prisoners are divided. Some claim that the enemy army is entirely on Smolensk; others that there is only one part. Give this news to Paris. Give them also to the Duke of Bellune, the Governor of Konigsberg, and the Duke of Castiglione. Communicate them also to General Beynier and Warsaw. You will have written to the governor of Minsk to organize the posts as far as Orcha, since it is on this road that our correspondence passes today.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19098. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Smolensk, August 18, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I return at once; the heat is excessive and there is a lot of dust, which makes us very tired. We had here the whole enemy army; she had orders to give battle here, and did not dare. We took Smolensk by force. It is a very big city, with a wall and fortifications respectable. We have killed the enemy 3 to 4,000 men, wounded the triple, and found here many pieces of cannon; many of his divisional generals have been killed, it is said here. The Russian army marches very unhappy and discouraged in the direction of Moscow. Schwarzenberg and Reynier together beat the Russians.

(Note from the original - His Majesty having thrown himself on his bed immediately after having dictated the letter, and the courier having left without delay, this letter is sent to the Duke de Bassano without being signed.)

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19099. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk. August 19, 1812.

My cousin, order General Claparede to take up position in the bridgehead of the city beyond the Dnieper. Make him known that he ceases to be part of the corps of Prince Eckmühl with his division and returns under the command of the Duke of Treviso.[157]

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Order the vice-ruler to place his troops on the heights of Smolensk, nearly in the position occupied by the Duke of Elchingen, in order to reach the right bank on the two bridges of the Duke of Elchingen, at once. that the cavalry will have debouched. Let him leave the Italian division and the Bavarian light cavalry where they are, until my rear is cleared of the enemy runners. The garrisons at Rossasna and Kbomino will strengthen the Krasnoi garrison.

Order Prince Poniatowski to assemble his army corps in a position on the right of the city, to rally his corps, to make calls, to recognize his situation, the vacant places by death, and to make proposals for replacements, to light our right up to ten leagues, along the left bank of the Dnieper.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19100. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 19, 1812.

Cousin, write the following letter to the Duke of Reggio: "I have received your letters of the 14th. The Emperor has seen with difficulty that you are not following Wittgenstein, whom you have opposed, and that you are leaving this general master to carry on the Duke of Taranto or to pass the Dvina to make an incursion on our rear. You have the most exaggerated notions about the forces of General Wittgenstein, who has only two or at most three divisions of troops of the line, six 3rd battalions under the command of Prince Repnine, and some militias which are not worth the trouble. The Russians publish everywhere and in the rear the dazzling victory which they have won over you, for without reason you have allowed them to sleep on the spot. Battlefield The reputation of arms in war is everything and is equivalent to real forces. His Majesty orders you to seek Wittgenstein and attack wherever you find him, taking care to maneuver him if he has a strong position; if he has no position, he can not resist you.

"The Duke of Tarentum, who is ordered to march entirely on Riga, to besiege this place, is stopped, by the effect of your maneuvers, on Dinabourg, it is not necessary that you add[158]

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faith in rumors spread by the enemy that Repnine commands a division of the guard. Prince Repnine is only brigadier general; he was formerly part of the guard, but since Austerlitz was removed from it, you only have custody of a Cossack squadron and a squadron of dragoons. The principle of the Russians in this war is to disseminate the garrison battalions in different years, in order to make more difficult the knowledge of their movements and their forces. This is how Tormasof had a reputation in Volhynia for having 60 to 80,000 men. Prince Schwarzenberg walked to him with 25,000 Austrians; this ghost has dissipated. Tormasof found himself having only two divisions of infantry and two of cavalry forming 4,000 men; they were scattered, beaten, and lost 3,000 men; they were pursued during the space of twenty leagues; they were still pursued in Volhynia from the officer in charge of the dispatches. Before us, the Russians say they have 300,000 men. The inhabitants, officers, generals, everybody says it. The fact is, if one takes away the armed militia of pikes and some 3rd battalions that do not count, they have only a third of these forces."

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19101. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk. August 19, 1812.

Cousin, order that the Smolensk pile Bridge be restored, and that the engineer begin to work on it today.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19102. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 19, 1812.

Cousin, send to the Duke of Reggio, that at the battle of Krasnoi the King of Naples and the Duke of Elchingen have made 1,500 prisoners, taken eight pieces of cannon and fourteen harnessed caissons, and killed many people against the enemy; besides, that we pursued the enemy on Smolensk, who has a brick shift ten feet thick and a covered way; that half of the enemy's army was in the city and on the glacis, and the other half on the right bank;[159]

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that the enemy was attacked and beaten, that he left 4,000 men on the battle field; that he had several generals killed and 10 or 12,000 wounded; that he has left a hundred pieces of cannon, several of which are siege, and that he has crossed the river in haste; that we pursue him on the road of Moscow.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19103. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk. August 19, 1812.

Cousin, order that the bridges of Khomino and Rossasna be raised; that the hospitals and ambulances in these two places should be evacuated, and that the detachments therein should be employed in the garrisons of Orsha, Doubrovna, and Krasnoi. There are ovens at Orcha and Doubrovna, order that they build six at Krasnoi, The route of the army will be by Minsk: organize it definitely.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

10104, - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 19, 1812,

Order the Prince of Eckmühl to assemble his whole army in a position beyond the convent, on the heights, by making General Friant take the lead, and also assemble his brigade of light cavalry.

You will let him know that Claparede's division is no longer under his orders, and joined the corps of the Duke of Treviso.

According to the unsigned original, War Depot,

19105, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 20, 1812.

My cousin, please send me the state of the garrisons of Orsha, Doubrovna, Liady, Krasnoi and Korytnia, so that I can see whether this road is sufficiently secure against the incursions of the Cossacks, and whether There are precautions to take. Answer me immediately,

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[160]

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19106. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 20, 1812.

Cousin, give orders that no convoy or troop enter the city. The service for the army will be around the place; have paths and bridges recognized for this purpose. The convoys of the wounded and the wagons where the generals who have quarters at the headquarters would only be able to enter the city. Give orders for the artillery and military crew wings to be parked outside the city,

Write to the Intendant General that the ambulance service is hurting; it is astonishing that since yesterday, when there were pioneering commitments, headquarters surgeons, some ambulances and empty wagons from headquarters or others have not been sent to the front. guard to pick up the wounded; that the administration has no direction.

Give orders for the city to be divided into quarters, to be formed infantry patrols and gendarmerie of thirty men, as far as there will be neighborhoods. These patrols will be used to search houses to arrest sick Russian soldiers who may be there or to bury those who have died. All prisoners will be confined in churches or convents, under guard; and you will order that, under whatever pretext, no one be released to do chores.

We complain that they escape.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of war.

19107. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 20, 1812.

My Cousin, show my discontent with General Chasseloup for the little activity he puts into his service. The outlets of the city have not been cared for by engineering, resulting in congestion. No engineer has followed the vanguard, either to repair the bridges or to build them on each stream, and thus to promote pioneering communications and movements, either forwards or for retreats. Prescribe him to take measures so that I no longer have such blame for the Corps of Engineers and him personally.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of war.[161]

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19108. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 20, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Grouchy that he sends his two brigades to the Prince of Eckmühl when he is in communication with him (this marshal is the vanguard); that he sends strong acknowledgments to ensure that the roads of Roudnia and Yanovichi are free and try to communicate with Vitebsk by agents; let him finally take some information to tell the story of everything that has happened on Roudnia since our departure; that he is walking with the greater part of his forces on Doukhovshchinu, that, as we are tonight on Tsurikovo, he may arrive in the day of tomorrow to the river.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19109, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 20, 1812, eleven o'clock at night.

Cousin, order the viceroy to send General Pino with his division at three o'clock in the morning; he will go to Inkovo for a long march to get in touch with Vitebsk and act according to the circumstances. Order General Pajol to go to Inkovo to assemble with Pino's division, so that these two divisions together, forming about 8,000 men, infantry and cavalry, may be carried on Vitebsk or any other endangered point. Order General Pino to correspond frequently with you, and General Pujol to correspond with the Governor of Vitebsk and with General Guyon, who commands light cavalry, so as not to miss the moment of rescuing Vitebsk and relieving him of the Cossacks. who surround him. General Pajol will be under the orders of General Pino. Make these arrangements known to General Grouchy, so that he will be in touch with the movements that will take place. Finally let General Pino know that he must send strong parties to purge my rear and give a vigorous hunt to the Cossacks who had slipped there,

NAPOLEON.

According to the original. Deposit of the war.[162]

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19110. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT SMOLENSK CAMP.

Smolensk, August 20, 1812.

My Son, I send you a report from the commander of Krasnoi.

Did not you give orders to the cavalry, as I told you, to protect my rear and cover them with Cossacks?

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Mme. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19111. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 21, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Latour-Maubourg that he is ordering Dembrowski's division, infantry and artillery, to retrograde to take the most suitable position to keep Mohilef and Minsk, to keep the Bobrouisk garrison and the corps is in Mozyr. As this last general has no cavalry, General Latour-Maubourg will give him a brigade of light cavalry strong at least 1,200 horses, which will complete the division Dombrowski to more than 6,000 men, cavalry, artillery and infantry. This division will return the battalion which it has to Grodno and will put himself in a position. General Dombrowski will take care to send reports to the governors of Mohilef and Minsk, to the governor-general of Lithuania at Vilna, and to report to you what the corps of Mozyr, the garrison of Bobruisk, and what happens in the country.

General Latour-Maubourg, with the other brigade of light cavalry, that of cuirassiers, and his artillery, will carry himself between Smolensk and Roslavl, and will occupy Roslavl by reconnoiters to subdue the country. He will send from Mstislavl and Roslavl, and other points, convoys of flour, oxen, wheat, brandy for the army, He will establish posts of correspondence from the point where he will be on Minsk, so that we can always send him orders.

NAPOLEON

According to the original. Deposit of the war.

19112. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 21, 1812.

My Cousin, order General Chasseloup to send[163]

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immediately General Kirgener with three companies of sappers and a company of the Danube, to follow the road of the army, to mend all the bridges that the enemy has damaged, and even to build doubles to facilitate the communications of the army, finally to do all that is necessary to improve the way.

NAPOLEON

P. S. He will share at least six workshops.
From the original. Deposit of the war.

19113. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 22, 1812, half-past three in the morning.

Cousin, give orders to Prince Poniatowski to leave here, to be attached to the garrison of Smolensk, one of his cavalry regiments, and to leave with his corps to be returned today to Bielkino, or near there. From there he will go between Yelnia and Dorogobouje, still standing two or three leagues to the right of the King of Naples, who was last evening at Sioboda-Pnevo on the Dnieper. He will bind himself to the King of Naples by patrols, in order to follow his movement and to take part in the rearguard battles which may take place. He will cover the right of cavalry parties.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. He will write several times a day to give news of the enemy, news that he will be better able to know than the King, since the enemy burns the villages before him, and that the prince, finding himself on the right, will find villages and inhabitants who will give him information.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19114. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 22, 1812, four o'clock in the morning.

My Cousin, answer General Grouchy that I approve the movement he wants to do; that, on the occasion of correspondence with the King of Naples, he will follow his orders; that he continues to send us information, that he is more likely to know what[164]

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makes the enemy the King of Naples, since he is in a line which the enemy does not defend; that he must therefore question the peasants and draw as much information as possible; that the King of Naples was yesterday on the Dnieper, at Sloboda-Pnevo.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19115, - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN PNEVO,

Smolensk. August 22, 1812, four o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, you do not write to me; I want you to write to me every day; that you send me a detail of the country, the location of your troops, and all the information that may interest me. I recommend to the King of Naples not to tire the troops too much by that extreme heat, to engage only rear-guard affairs, and to take up positions as soon as it is necessary to think that the enemy has taken the In order to receive battle you had also announced to me the map of the country which you have and which would be very necessary to me.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

19116. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 21, 1812,

Cousin, order the Duke of Elchingen to leave his position tomorrow to take that of Sloboda-Pnevo, on the Dnieper, and restore the bridges there. He will be there to support the King of Naples and the Prince of Eckmühl, if it is necessary.

Order the Viceroy to leave at two o'clock in the morning to take the road to Doukhovshchina, followed by General Grouchy. He will leave an aide-de-camp here to take instructions that I will make tomorrow morning. He will be careful to leave correspondence posts, so that the communication is very fast. He will send an officer to General Grouchy to-morrow for news, this general having already communicated with the King of Naples.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[165]

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19117. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 22, 1812.

Cousin, send an officer to General Pino, who is at Inkovo, to order him to communicate with Vitebsk; he would go with his whole corps, if it were necessary to have news of it; but if he thinks he can do without his infantry, since there are already 8,000 men of infantry in Vitebsk, he will send General Pajol's cavalry there, if that is necessary to sweep the environs of this city, before which Cossacks were present; if it is sufficient, he will be content to send General Guyon's brigade to it, which seems to have done a great disservice to the task I had given him to enlighten Vitebsk and to protect the communications of this town with the army. This General seems to have little activity.

It is necessary also to be well informed of the infantry which I would have in Souraje. Cavalry posts will be left from Inkovo at Smolensk, so that correspondence on this side may be rapid. General Pino will send one of his aides-de-camp to Vitebsk to report promptly the report of all that has happened on both banks.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the War,

19118. - TO MADAME LA COMTESSE DE MONTESQUIOU,
GOVERNOR OF THE CHILDREN OF FRANCE, IN PARIS.

Smolensk, August 23, 1812.

Countess de Montesquiou, I received the portrait of the King, I found it very similar. It gives me an opportunity, which I seize with pleasure, to express to you all my satisfaction of the care you take of him,

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by General Count de Montesquiou-Fezensac.

19119 - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Smolensk, August 23, 1812,

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I have not received a letter from you by the courier arrived today.[166]

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I order the Duke de Bellune to come promptly to Kovno.

I am going to withdraw the Illyrian regiment and the 129th, which are at Vilna, to send them to Minsk; I suppose that the troops of the government of Vilna are sufficient for the garrison of this city.

It seems to me that Bignon is doing badly; he makes diatribes against the governor, instead of supporting him. The country is doing nothing. Since Hogendorp is in Vilna, things have taken a better turn; but it is still far from what it should be; the government there.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by M. the Duke of Bassano.

19120. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 23, 1812.

Cousin, order the Duke of Bellune to march on four columns to reach Kovno quickly.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19121. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRANI, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 23, 1812.

Cousin, order the Duke of Elchingen to carry his army corps to the post of Mikhailovka, if the King of Naples is at Dorogobouje. Instruct him that the Viceroy is ordered to go to the village of Prost, half way from Doukhovshchina to Dorogobouje, that Prince Poniatowski left yesterday and goes through Bielkino to move between Yelnia and Dorogobouje, finally the Westphalians are ordered to go to Sloboda-Pnevo.

Order the Westphalians to leave tomorrow to go to Sioboda-Pnevo, on the Dnieper, and to have the bridges completed, so that there are at least four good ones. You will recommend them to communicate with General Grouchy, who has arrived at Doukhovshchina, and with the Viceroy, who is ordered to go to the village of Prost.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[167]

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19122. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT POMOGLILOVA.

Smolensk. August 23, 1812, six o'clock in the evening.

My son, General Grouchy arrived at Doukhovshchina. I suppose that today your head will be in Pomogailova. I do not see any need for you to go as far as Dushanchina: and if the roads were good and passable, I want you to go to the village of Prost, that is to say, halfway from Doukhovshchina to Dorogobouje.

The King of Naples was this morning at the post of Mikhailovka; I suppose he will be at Dorogobouje tonight with Prince Eckmühl. The Duke of Elchingen is at Sloboda-Pnevo; he goes tomorrow to Mikhailovka, The Westphalians go to Sloboda-Pnevo,

General Pino has arrived at Inkovo. It seems to me that he has misunderstood his instructions, since he appears to be on Vitebsk; but Vitebsk was relieved of everything, and he was ordered to go there only as much as necessary. It is therefore important that he and General Pajol, a kings whom they will be very reassured about Vitebsk, come back to join you. You will first bring them to a point on the road from Smolensk to Porietche, from where they will be directed according to the circumstances.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S.A. I. Mm, Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19123. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOROGOBOUJE.

Smolensk, August 23, 1812, in the evening.

Cousin, I received your letter of the 22nd at midnight. I suppose you will be in Dorogobouje today. Gather your whole corps between Mikhailovka Post and Dorogobouje. I order the viceroy to go on your left to Prost; Prince Poniatowski to take a right on the road between Dorogobouje and Yelnia; to the duke of Elchingen to go to Mikhailovka, and to the Westphalians to replace the Duke of Elchingen at Sloboda - Pnevo. Thus, in twenty-four hours, the whole army can assemble. I look forward to hearing from you tonight to start the Guard, so that if the enemy wants to wait for us, we can fight him.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.[168]

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19124. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, PROST.

Smolensk. August 24, 1812, nine o'clock in the morning.

My Son, you will have received the order I gave you to go to Prost. The King of Naples tells me that the army is in presence, and that the enemy has all his army in battle at Dorogobouje; he will doubtless have instructed you. It is therefore necessary that you join the army promptly. I will leave this night. The vanguard of the King of Naples is between Ousviate and Dorogobouje, and his headquarters are in front of Ousviate.

The news from Vitebsk is that the enemy has disappeared, not only towards Vitebsk, but also from Souraje, to retreat to Velije. Write to General Pino, as I wrote to him, to set out quickly to join you, and to be at the battle. General Pino did not understand his instructions well. Without going to Vitebsk, he could inform the cavalry patrols and agents of what was happening at Vitebsk. Try not to have stragglers and to gather all your means. If you pass by the right bank of the Dnieper, I have written to the King of Naples to make a bridge behind Ousviate; but it is asserted that the river on this side is very little.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchteuberg.

19125. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk. August 24, 1812.

Cousin, order General Claparede to leave at noon with his division, to make a march to go to Ponova in the direction of Dorogobouje, independently of the eight regimental pieces of this division, they will march with her every day. parts of the Delahorde Division, with the exception of the eight regimental pieces of the Young Guard which are still to be attached to the Delaborde Division.

You will also order General Sorbier to leave today with all the reserve of the artillery of the Guard to go on Dorogobouje. It is necessary that he walk as fast as he can. You will order the Duke of Treviso to carry his headquarters to Ponova today, with the Claparede division, which[169]

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will leave at noon today, the reserve of the artillery of the Guard, the artillery of the division Delaborde, as it was said above, and the Roguet division, which will leave at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Order the Duke of Danzig to be ready to leave in the night, and consequently to pass tonight at seven o'clock, when the whole corps of the Duke of Treviso will have passed, all his caissons and all his artillery beyond the water, so that, if it is necessary, he may leave tomorrow at two o'clock in the morning and make a great march.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

18126. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk. August 24, 1812,

My Cousin, order that the surgeons of the Guard and the various corps leave tomorrow to rejoin their army corps, since the army is in presence.

Order that the small headquarters leave at six o'clock in the evening.

Order that in the day of today and tomorrow, the six hundred wagons of the Headquarters who are here leave loaded with food or empty; they will take charge en route.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original, War Depot,

19127. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812,

Cousin, give orders to the Duke of Danzig to leave at two o'clock in the morning with the old Guard to make a good march, without, however, fatiguing his world. He will continue to walk until he has joined the Emperor.

Order General Delaborde to remain with his division and eight pieces of cannon to guard Smolensk plaza; he will serve temporarily as governor general. Independently of his division forming 4,000 men, he will have under his orders a company of the battalion of the Danube and two companies of sappers, a Polish regiment which is here and which you will name to him. You will let him know the commander of the place. The artillery commander will leave an artillery officer, and the engineer commander a[170]

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engineer officer. General Delaborde will take care to take all the precautions for the guard of Smolensk; he will close the gap with wood. He will have under his command an arms commander and four warrant officers. He will keep the Cossacks far from the communication route. He will correspond with the commanders of the line from here to Orcha. He will supply the place with requisitions in the countryside. He will use some remaining members of the municipality to engage the inhabitants to return; he will make some proclamations to the inhabitants of the country, and will endeavor to reassure everybody.

The marching regiment of the Guard and that of the 3rd Corps, which are at Vitebsk, shall be ordered to come to Smolensk; other troops must also arrive there, so that in seven to eight days the division of the young Guard will be able to leave here. General Delubord will leave, leaving the command in other hands which the Emperor will designate, and leaving a garrison of 4,000 men. He will be left a squad of gendarmerie for the police of the bridges.

General Delaborde will be careful to write every day by the messenger of the Emperor who will pass, and another time by correspondence. He will keep the isolated men and the small detachments that pass by, and will form battalions of march; he will place them in churches or convents until he receives the order to have them joined. He will also monitor the handling. He will command men of chore for the service of the hospitals and the wounded. He will correspond with the governors of Mohilef, Vitebsk and Minsk, in order to learn from each other what would be new. He will take care to mark the place that each individual must occupy in case of alarm; finally he will work as much as possible on the reorganization of the city.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. The aide de camp Caulaincourt will remain tomorrow's day here to bring General Delaborde to the point.

From the original, Depot of War.

19128. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812.

Cousin, you will find attached a note on the intendant to furnish Prince Schwarzenberg a second advance of 500,000 francs.[171]

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Make known to the prince my satisfaction of the victory he has won; that tomorrow I will march on the enemy, who appears to take a position twenty leagues from here, on the road to Moscow; that I desire him to ensure that Tormasof and the troops which the enemy may have in Volhynia do not come to attack me; that I recommend him to occupy them.

Write to General Reynier in the same direction.

You will inform Prince Schwarzenberg that I have asked the Emperor of Austria that all advancements are made in his corps and that he should be granted rewards; that I reserve on my side to agree on the report he will make me; that I am waiting for his proposals.

Write to the Duke of Taranto to let him know what has happened, and let me start.

Write also to General Saint-Cyr; let him know that I am waiting for his proposals to give rewards to his army corps; that it follows from the Russian bulletins that Wittgenstein has only two divisions, formed of reserve battalions composed only of recruits.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19129. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812.

Cousin, write to Prince Poniatowski to let him know that the army was present on the river of Ouja, and that I am leaving the night to go to Ousviate; that I suppose he will have communicated with the King of Naples, and that he will already be able to turn the position of the enemy or take his battle position.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19130. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SMOLENSK,

Smolensk, August 24, 1812.

My Cousin, order General Eble to raise the decks and go forward with his staff, to gain a march, leaving what will be necessary for the bridges.

Order General Chasseloup to leave Smolensk a[172]

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company of the Danube battalion to restore the bridge on stilts, and two companies of sappers, and to make leave all the. stay with the small headquarters for Sloboda - Pnevo. You will order him to be returned from his person as soon as possible, and, if the localities permit, to build on this point a redoubt at the head of the bridge that can protect the retrograde passage of the army to the parade bridges, if the case arises, recommend him to have double bridges built on the streams and the defiles everywhere, so that the retrograde movements of the army, if they took place, should be done with all ease,

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19131. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SMOLENSK,

Smolensk, August 24, 1812,

Cousin, send an officer to General Latour-Maubourg to bring him the duplicate of the orders you have already given him for him and for the Dombrowski division, Mandez to General Latour-Maubourg to press his march to arrive between Yelnia and Dorogobouje, and to take part in the battles that can take place in a few days.

Reiterate the order to General Dombrowski to take measures to protect the country of Minsk and to secure the Borisof and Mohilef highway.

Order the Illyrian regiment at Kovno and 129th, which is at Vilna, to go to Minsk without delay.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19132, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812

Cousin, write to General Pino that you have received his letter; that, since there is nothing new at Vitebsk, he joins, with Pajol's division and General Guyon's brigade of light cavalry, the 4th corps, because we are in presence before Dorogobouje, and that you make known when it will arrive, the cavalry can always take the lead.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,[173]

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19133. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT HOGENDORP,
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF LITHUANIA, IN VILNA.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812.

Monsieur Count Hogendorp, I have appointed you Chairman of the Provisional Committee of the Government of Lithuania. By another order of the day, I have charged you with the appointment to the posts of the nine regiments raised in Lithuania, and all the measures to be taken to speed up the formation of these regiments. I send you various notes of the Duke of Bassano, relative to the one raised. See this minister and provide what he proposes.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Count de Hogendorp.

19134. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812,

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, the anarchy and the lack of decision in the Vilna government commission made me think that it was indispensable to give the presidency to the general governor general of Lithuania. I forbid General Hogendorp to receive any extraordinary treatment from the country or any other expenses, and I write him in such a way as to change his conduct. If he does not, I'll see him replace him. He has only two facts for him: that since his arrival at Vilna the service has improved, and that, on the other hand, the government is doing nothing, See it and talk to him that way.

NAPOLEON,

From the original comm. by the Duke Bassano.

19135. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I read your letter of the 9th of August; I have provided all that it contains. I have instructed the Governor-General, by an order of the day, to appoint to the ranks of the regiments (1) and to speed up their training. I have placed 500,000 francs at the disposal of the Government's Committee for the Clothing of the troops, and only as ready. The weapons must have arrived

1) The nine regiments created in the Duchy of Lithuania.[174]

in Kovno; it seems, therefore, that no obstacle should arise any more.

I authorized the 129th regiment and the Illyrian regiment to recruit Poles. The cadre of these existing bodies, this operation will be simpler.

I do not know where the 3rd Guard Lancers are: report to me on this; it seems that this organization is going very slowly. I had also authorized Krasinski to raise his regiment to 2,000 men, taking all the young nobility who would like to introduce themselves; but this beautiful regiment, where one is so well paid, is still only 3 to 400 men. I do not see anything happening. On the other hand, the army of Prince Poniatowski has only 12 to 15,000 men; all his corps are joined and no reinforcements are sent. In the final analysis, there is very little help. Speak with the members of the Vilna Commission; - Agree with the governor with Mr. Bignon. I do not want any discussion, etiquette or annoyance.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original by the Duke of Bassano,

19136. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I have appointed General Hogendorp as Chairman of the Provisional Committee of the Government of Lithuania; by this means, all the difficulties that have occurred will cease. I am not satisfied with M. Bignon, who, amidst the needs and embarrassments I find myself in, makes epigrams and jokes. It is a fact that since the arrival of General Hogendorp the service has improved. The duty of M. Bignon was therefore to assist him with force, and not to oppose him.

I beg you to testify on my part to the Vilna Government Committee my dissatisfaction with its lack of activity; he does not do anything. Those of Minsk, Mohilef, etc., have done much more. The result of all this would be to disgust the cause. They do not have a single man, a single battalion to give, either to guard the marshes of Pinsk or to stop the Cossacks. Moreover, I am obliged to leave Vilna and Minsk with garrisons as in enemy towns. I have not been provided with any kind of resource, my hospitals are bad, my stores are devoid of everything. The government does not help me and does nothing but trinkets. Civil authority and military authority must walk together.[175]

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Join M. Bignon to be, in a way, the Secretary of the General Government, and to assist him with all his means; that this is the only way I know for him to render me services.

I need to finally train my stores to feed my army for an entire year; it would require 1,200,000 quintals of flour, and the rest in proportion, to be distributed among the governments of Vilna, Minsk, Grodno, Bialystok, Mohilef, and Vitebsk. Please see how this breakdown could be done and suggest ways to organize the different services. During the time of the harvest and all the summer season, the army can feed itself by foraging, to the great detriment of the discipline and also of the country; but during the bad season and the winter, that is impossible. I had ordered that markets should be passed for the transport of the Kovno stores and the effects of clothing: I do not know that nothing has been done; at least I did not hear about it anymore. It is, however, a very important operation.

There must be a payer in Vilna; I am surprised that it does not have the necessary funds.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

19137. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA,

Smolensk, August 24, 1812,

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, by your letter of August 9th, you proposed to me the establishment of superior inspectors for the organization of the regiments, and various appointments. My intention is that the Governor General, whom I have just established as Chairman of the Provisional Commission of the Government, should have all the authority necessary for this, except to subsequently patent the individuals by me. My distance and my occupations do not allow me to answer all the requests with the necessary exactitude, so I have full confidence in the governor general and in M, Bignon for this object.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

19138, - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Smolensk. August 24, 1812,

Monsieur Duke de Bassano, I'm leaving the night to carry me[176]

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on Dorogobouje, where it appears that the armies are in presence, the enemy having halted. It is said that there is a position they want to take advantage of to fight and cover Moscow.

NAPOLEON

According to the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19139. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Smolensk. August 24, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I ordered the Duke of Bellune to march on Kovno in four columns, on the right bank and on the left bank, in order to arrive promptly. You can send him this order directly, in case the Major General's officer loses time to arrive.

General Loison has, I know not why, marched with 10,000 men from Konigsberg on Rastenburg and Grodno. I blamed his conduct. I ordered him to send back to Konigsberg the young conscripts of the Lagrange Division who do not need to be fatigued, and who are destined to repair the losses which the cadres make. I ordered him to command on Minsk the 7th and 8th Cavalry Regiment, and the 8th Westphalian Regiment, and two Saxon battalions of the Low and Rechten regiments, on Minsk. Write to General Loison by the courier to let him know the disposition. Write at the same time by Polish agents who will meet these regiments, so that if they are on the side of Lomza they go directly to Minsk.

Write to the Duke of Taranto that the vanguard is sixty leagues from Moscow; that the enemy army is in position and that it seems that it wants to give battle.

I ordered the Illyrian regiment and the 129th to go to Minsk; this movement is necessary. The troops of the country can supply the garrison of Vilna. The Duke de Bellune, moreover, who arrives in position at Kovno, can remedy any event; instead of Minsk, either the garrison of Bobruisk, or a corps coming from Volhynia, may disturb the communications. Make known to the governor of Minsk that he will have an Illyrian regiment, two battalions of the 129th with their guns, two battalions of the 33rd light, two Westphalian battalions and two Saxon battalions with their artillery; that the Dombrowski division with two regiments of cavalry and twenty-four pieces of cannon was ordered to retrogress on Minsk, in order to hold in check the garrison of Bobruisk. Let the government know[177]

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from Lithuania it would be necessary to hold two battalions of chasseurs on the side of the marshes of Pinsk, or even two battalions of national guards, which protect the country from the incursions of the Cossacks. The rifles must have arrived in Minsk, sent everywhere where troops can be armed. It is ridiculous that cities like Vilna, Minsk, Mohilef, could not defend against a squadron of Cossacks, and could be put to use by these wretches.

NAPOLEON,

P. S. Pass this letter to Vienna by a courier.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19140. - TO FRANCOIS I, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, IN VIENNA.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812.

Dear Brother and dear Father-in-law, expressing to Your Imperial Majesty my satisfaction with the conduct of the corps which the Prince of Schwarzenberg commands, who will not fail to put before him the report of the advantage which he has lately won, I beg your Majesty to do something which He would be extremely agreeable, by granting the vacant places in this corps to be filled by officers who are part of it. Having placed under the orders of Prince Schwarzenberg the corps commanded by General Reynier, and the circumstances of the campaign, which may enable me to entrust him with other corps, I beg your Majesty to grant him the rank of Field-Marshal.

I take this opportunity to thank Your Majesty for all that she has done for the Empress during her stay in Bohemia. She is now at Saint-Cloud, where everybody has found her well and fat.

I leave that night to go to my vanguard, which is twenty leagues on the road to Moscow.

I beg your Majesty not to doubt my unalterable attachment, nor my desire to be agreeable to him under all circumstances, and to give him proof of the esteem and high consideration with which I am, of Your Imperial Majesty, the good Brother and son-in-law.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of S. M, the Emperor of Austria.[178]

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19141. - TO FRÉDÉRIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, STUTTGART.

Smolensk, August 24, 1812.

Sir, I have received the two letters of Your Majesty, the 23rd of July. The royal prince, who must now be with your Majesty, will have given him the details of the disagreeable affair of which he speaks to me. I regret that the health of the prince has thus removed him from the army, and has deprived me of an opportunity of proving to him that he has lost none of the feelings I feel for him.

I give orders to the Duke of Taranto, who is in Courland, for the land of Vurzau to be treated with the kindnesses to which Madame Duchess Henriette, Your Majesty's sister-in-law, is entitled.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg,

19142. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ZASIJE.

Dorogobouje, August 26, 1812, two o'clock in the morning.

My Son, I receive a letter from you informing me that you will be early in Dorogobouje. Stay on the right bank of the Dnieper. Pass the Dnieper between Blagové and Chorki (l), and make your way to Viazma, always keeping one or two leagues to the left of the road. You will have before you General Grouchy, who will bind himself to the King of Naples. Light up your left. I do not suppose that you can go beyond the Dukepr today, but General Grouchy will go as far as Slavkovo, which is the point occupied by the King of Naples at night. Prince Poniatowski forms the right and walks on the left of the Vosma.

I will probably have today all day my neighborhood

General in Dorogobouje.

Write to General Pino and General Pajol for them to come. It is probable that the enemy army will wait for us at Viazma; we must arrive there in many numbers and in order. Beat the road from Dorogobouje to Velije. I guess there will be nothing on this road and everything will be replicated on Viazma.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

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1) The position of these two points corresponds, on the map of the Russian general staff, to that of Molodilova and Blaaoieshchenskoye.[179]

19143. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORRS OF THE GREAT ARMY.

Dorogobouje, August 26, 1812, two o'clock in the morning.

My Cousin, form an infantry vanguard who marches with the cavalry one hour before your corps, and still taking a position a league ahead of you. This vanguard must itself be preceded by two battalions of voltigeurs. The rest of your corps, always place it in battle line hour back. Go today to near Slavkovo.

The Viceroy marches to your left, and Prince Poniatowski to your right, so that these three corps will bivouack in battle, forming a single line, each separated by a league or two apart, and occupying from left to right three four leagues away.

The Duke of Elchingen, the Guard, and the Duke of Abrantes will form the second line.

It is necessary to walk on short days and with order. If the plain is as it is supposed, and the cavalry can pass from right to left, the march may be directed so that it is not fatiguing for the infantry. It must be finished early. All the probabilities are that the enemy will wait for us at Viazma; we must therefore arrive in order. Have all bridges repaired and made double. It takes three days to arrive near Viazma.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl,

19144. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOROGOBOUJE.

Dorogobouje, August 26, 1812.

My Cousin, you will order the arrest of Monsieur …… who, instead of sending out the effects of the hospitals, has, under the pretext of sending wine to the Emperor, provided ten boxes to a merchant of wine. You will notice that, independently of the violation of the service of the hospitals, there is also a violation of the respect due to the Emperor, in the prostitution which has been made of the name of his House. Monsieur ….. knew well that it was not true, or at least was not represented any letter from the Grand Marshal who could certify such an assertion. You will also ask Monsieur..... what are two caissons that the commander of the young Guard escorted to Vilna; it's probably still wine; so this officer sacrificed[180]

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his duties to commercial speculations. All the effects that Monsieur..... has made wrongly carried on these ten caissons and the other two will be paid to ambulances for the service of hospitals.

You will give me an account of the interrogation of Monsieur..... so that it is taken to him the measures which the gravity of the crime requires.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19145. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOROGOBOUJE.

Dorogobouje, August 26, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the Duke of Elchingen to bring his headquarters to-night, and to gather his corps d'armee on the main road, beyond the Vosma, behind the village of Boldinesky.

Order the Duke d'Abrantes to bring his headquarters to Dorogobouje tonight and place his army corps in front of the city.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war

19146. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOROGOBOUJE.

Dorogobouje, August 26, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke de Bellune to go to Vilna to see the Duke de Bassano, and to acquaint himself with the affairs and the state of things; that I will be the day after tomorrow at Viazma, that is, five steps from Moscow; that there will probably be a battle that will take us to Moscow; that it is possible that in this state of things the communications come to be intercepted; that, therefore, someone must take the command and act according to the circumstances; that I ordered the 129th regiment, the Illyrian regiment, the Westphalian regiment at Roenigsberg, and the two Saxon regiments to be sent to Minsk; that I have also placed between Domnowski and Minsk the division of Dombrowski, with 12 battalions and a brigade of light cavalry; that I believe it is important for his corps to approach Vilna and to direct him according to circumstances, so as to be able to support Smolensk, Vitebsk, Mohilef, and Minsk; that the Dombrowski division must be sufficient to maintain the communication of Minsk by Orcha up to[181]

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Smolensk, since it has only to contain the Russian division of General Hertel, which is at Mozyr, with a force of 6,000 to 8,000 men, most of whom are recruits, and against whom, besides, General Schwarzenberg can operate; that the new reinforcements which I send to Minsk will also be able to meet all the inconveniences, and that, in any case, the movement of the Duke de Bellune on Minsk and Orcha, and thence on Smolensk, seems to me proper to maintain all the rear; that I have 4,000 garrison men at Vitebsk and as many at Smolensk; that the Duke of Bellune, taking this position between the Dnieper and the Dvina, will be in easy communication with me, will be able to receive my orders promptly and will be able to protect the communications of Minsk and Vitebsk as well as those of Smolensk on Moscow: that I suppose that General Gouvion Saint-Cyr has enough 2nd and 6th corps to hold General Wittgenstein in check and to have nothing to fear from it; that the Duke of Taranto can go on Biga to invest the place; lastly, that I order the four brigades of the march, forming 9,000 men, who were part of the Lagrange division, to march on Kovno, so that it would only be in the event that General Gouvion Saiut Cyr was beaten by the general. Wittgenstein and obliged to iron the Dvina that the Duke de Bellune should go to his aid first; that, excepting this case, he must follow his direction on Smolensk.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war

19147. TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOROGOBOUJE.

Dorogobouje, August 26, 1812.

Cousin, I do not know what orders to give to the Duke of Reggio.

It is he alone who must see the state of his injury. If she were to put him for a long time out of service, I would see no objection to him returning to France; finally, what I desire above all is that he should recover quickly.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19148. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOROGOBOUJE.

Dorogobouje, August 26, 1812.

Cousin, order Prince Poniatowski to go today to Viazma, up to the height behind the first[182]

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post, following the left bank of the Vosma, and sending cavalry parties so as to light the whole of the right. The King of Naples will be today a league ahead of Slavkovo. Prince Eckmühl will be at Slavkovo; he will be careful to communicate frequently, in order to be able to act according to the circumstances, if he were needed.

Order the viceroy to go on Viazma, passing the Dnieper between Blagové and Chorki, and to keep one or two leagues from the road on the left. He will have before him General Grouchy, to whom you will give the same order. Finally you will order him to enlighten the left and correspond with the King of Naples and the Prince of Eckmühl, who will go to Slavkovo today. You will also order the Viceroy to hasten the arrival of General Pino and Pajol's division; give the same order to General Grouchy.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19149.- TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Dorogobouje, August 26, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, the enemy, after having built fortifications, raised batteries and redoubts and announced the intention of holding here, has, as usual, lacked resolution. We have entered this city, which is considerable enough, since there are eight or ten steeples. The country is good, and it is said that it is very beautiful to Moscow. The heat we experience is excessive. The weather continues to be very beautiful. It is said that the enemy is determined to wait for us at Viazma. We will be there in a few days, and we shall then be half-way from Smolensk to Moscow, and, I believe, forty leagues from Moscow. If the enemy is beaten there, nothing can guarantee this great capital, I will be there on September 5th.

I see with pleasure the Duke de Bellune arrive at Kovno; he will be able to carry himself wherever he may be necessary to maintain his communications with me, if they come to be interrupted by the presence of any force whatsoever.

You will not fail to reiterate the order that the 8th Westphalian regiment, the two Saxon battalions who were under the orders of the

1) See the note from 19142.[183]

General Loison, as well as the Illyrian Regiment and the 129th Regiment, go to Minsk. Write to the governor of Minsk to use these troops to assure his communication with the army, and, united with the Dombrowski division, to be able to carry himself wherever it is necessary, to the assistance of Smolensk or on any other point. We should not wait for my orders if the communication was interrupted.

Give my news to General St. Cyr at Polotsk, the Duke of Taranto, and Prince Schwarzenberg.

I would like the battalion of Dombrowski's division, which is at Grodno, to go to Minsk to join this division.

Send the Duke of Bellune to make a bag for each soldier, capable of holding ten pounds, and to give each one ten pounds of rice.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19150. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNT DECRÈS, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Dorogobouje, August 26, 1812,

Count Decres, we are masters of all the countries and markets that provide masts, I hope that you have sent masters and workers to recognize them and make slaughtered, that I will take care to keep me in the conditions of peace.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame la Duchesse Decres.

19151. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SLAVKOVO.

Slavkovo, August 21, 1812,

Cousin, write to the Prince d'Eckmühl, that I have just ordered the Compans division to take up arms, to take advantage of the coolness, and to go with the light cavalry, if there is no obstacle, to six leagues forward. The prince of Eckmühl will follow this movement with all his army corps, by taking the arms successively, so that there is no congestion and that the troop has the least possible fatigue. He will put in motion all his baggage and all his rear, so that the Duke of Elchingen and the Guard can arrive here today without obstacle. Also write to Prince Poniatowski by General Bordesoulle to accelerate his movement, so as to be at the height of the vanguard.[184]

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Order the Duke of Elchingen to carry himself here; he will have his light cavalry occupy the junction of the two roads a league ahead of the headquarters. He will place a division ahead of the headquarters to cover us. It is good that the 1st division arrives at the best time possible.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19152. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SLAVKOVO.

Slavkovo, August 21, 1812,

Cousin, tomorrow 28th, the 3rd battalion of the 1st regiment of the Vistula and the 3rd of the 2nd regiment *ditto* arrive at Smolensk, which will make a reinforcement of 1,400 men for the garrison of this place. The two battalions of the 33rd light infantry must have arrived there, which will make a new reinforcement of 1,200 men; finally, a regiment of 3rd Corps must have arrived from Vitebsk, which will make a reinforcement of 1,200 men. The 3rd Battalion of the 3rd Regiment of the Vistula will also march on Smolensk, which, together with the isolated men, either those who have come out of hospitals sufficiently restored to serve the place, or those who come from the rear, must wear the Smolensk garrison in a reasonable state. My intention is therefore that General Baraguey d'Hilliers remain at Smolensk as governor-general of the province, and, pending his arrival, I desire that General Delaborde leave a Brigadier General of the Guard to command, and that as soon as There will be 3,000 men at Smolensk, General Delaborde is leaving with his division to rejoin the army. I desire you to give me a report of all the detachments of cavalry and infantry which will arrive at Smolensk by the 5th of September, so that I may have before you the successive increase which this garrison will experience. The only thing that will be missing is artillery. It is essential that there be six pieces, order General Delaborde to leave four of his eight pieces, harnessed, with their ammunition and their gunners, until the general of artillery has been able to obtain the six pieces of cannon for Smolensk. Let me know if artillery should arrive in this place by September 6th.

Order the general commanding the artillery to bring eighteen pieces of cannon, those taken from the enemy who are in Orcha, and to organize them for the defense of Smolensk, Give them also orders to place at Smolensk two artillery companies;[185]

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he can take the Prussian company I had brought from Konigsberg. Give him orders to bring to the army the artillery company which is at Thorn, and that which is at Marienburg, the company of pontonniers which was on the Vistula, all the companies of the crew of Magdeburg, give it to him. order also to draw a company of Danzig, one of Pillau and one of Spandau, and direct all this on Smolensk. Finally, order him to employ the company of Danube laborers to organize some bastard carriages, in order to use some heavy-gauge pieces or mortars which are at Smolensk.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19153. - TO MARSHAL AUGEREAU, DUKE OF CASTIGLIONE, COMMANDING THE 11th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, BERLIN.

Slavkovo, August 21, 1812.

My Cousin, I calculated on the arrival of all the reinforcements who must join my army to form successive reserves on my rear. It is, therefore, fitting that all that is not intended, by dispositions which have been made by me, to be part of your army corps, continues on its way to rejoin me. You must not retain any hussars, chasseur, or artillery trains; make everything spin. I would be very upset if, in the distance I am, all the reinforcements that came to me were arrested and diverted from the destination I gave them.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the General Duke of Mortemart.

19154. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DEROY, IN POLOTSK.

Slavkovo, August 21, 1812.

Mr. Major General Count Deroy, I am sending you this letter to express my satisfaction at the good conduct you have held in the Polotsk battle and the regret I have for knowing you were wounded. I myself wish to inform you that I have appointed you Count of the Empire and have granted you an endowment of 30,000 francs, transmissible to your children; and, wishing to reassure you as to the fate of your family, I give you a patent of 6,000 francs pension for the Countess Deroy.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Mr. Louis Barbier.

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1) General Deroy commanded one of the two Bavarian divisions attached[186]

19155. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY.

From the heights of Viazma. August 29, 1812.

Cousin, write to the governor of Smolensk that he organizes our communications. To this end, the post office of Goredikino will be cut off with strong palisades, so as to protect it from any attack by Cossacks and peasants. There he will place a commander with 100 men of infantry, a picket of 15 cavalrymen, post horses and the horses of the couriers. He will take care that this redoubt is always supplied for eight days in bread and meat. Such an establishment will be placed at the point of Sloboda-Pnevo, so as to defend the bridges at the same time. Such a thing will be done to Mikhailovka. This will require the employment of three companies or 300 infantry men and 45 cavalry men. Orders will be given for the couriers to be escorted by infantry and cavalry, when something is to be feared; the commanders will even stop the courier in cases where it could be compromised and make him wait for the passage of strong troops. As soon as it is possible, and artillery has arrived at Smolensk, a piece of cannon will be placed in each of these redoubts or blockhouses. The Smolensk garrison will provide these different posts.

He will be placed in Dorogobouje a battalion of 600 Westphalians with a squadron of 120 horses. The commander will have the citadel cut down by having the four houses and the church assembled by palisades. The commander of the place, the commissioner of war, the couriers and the post horses will be placed there. General Chasseloup will send an engineer officer and a squad of sappers to direct the work so that the 600 men have nothing to fear from all the peasants and Cossacks of the world.

Order the Duke of Abrantes to choose, near Slavkovo, the most favorable point for the removal of a house and a post with good palisades and ditches, so that 100 infantry men and 15 cavalry are there safe from attack, as well as the couriers, the post of correspondence and the stores which one will be able to gather on this point. We will do the same establishment to the other post houses until Viazma. The battalion

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to the 6th Corps of the Grand Army (Duke of Reggio). He died on August 18, the wounds he had received in the Polotsk battle. On the 27th of August, Napoleon did not yet know the death of this general.[187]

Dorogobouje will provide the Slavkovo post. The battalion that will be in Viazma will supply the post of Semlevo.

Reiterate the orders to the commander of Smolensk not to let detachments of cavalry and infantry, as well as convoys of provisions and artillery, leave until 5 to 600 men of well-organized infantry and cavalry from post in office. Let him know that his command extends to the limits of the Smolensk government, and that it is for him to see that the redoubts or blockhouses are put in condition; there is not a moment to lose for that. Recommend to General Chasseloup to send an engineer officer who will cover the entire line and will be responsible for removing these redoubts. In a country where there is so much wood, it must be very easy to quickly put 100 infantry men and some cavalrymen under cover of the Cossacks.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Instruct the Grand Equerry and the Duke d'Abrantes with these provisions.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19156. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY.

Two leagues behind Viazma, August 29, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the Viceroy to proceed on the road to Tver, two leagues ahead of Viazma, to send strong parties in this direction, to send some also in the direction of Bieloi.

Order the Prince of Eckmühl to go on the high road of Moscow, two leagues ahead of Viazma.

Order Prince Poniatowski to set off on the Viazma-Kaluga road and send strong cavalry parties in that direction to enlighten the country and find out what the enemy is doing. Prince Poniatowski will continue to flank the right of the Grand Army, which takes the road to Moscow.

Order the King of Naples to take up position two leagues ahead of Viazma, pushing forward the light cavalry of Generals Bruyere and Chastel, and as far as the enemy will permit him to go, Instruct him of the position which must be taken by the Viceroy and Prince Poniatowski.

Order the Duke of Elchingen to come to the position we are in today.[188]

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Order the Imperial Guard on foot and horse to come to Viazma.

As soon as we are able to enter Viazma, send the gendarmerie, General Caulaincourt, the commanding officer of the headquarters and the small headquarters. It will be forbidden to make bread in the furnaces of the city, for fear of setting it on fire, and the best police will be established there.

You will order the Duke d'Abrantes to remain in the position he is in, and will specially charge him to put order on our rear and in the small town of Dorogobouje, and to assure our communications with Smolensk, by reinforcing, if it is necessary, the post that is at the bridge. He will leave, until further notice, the cavalry rearguard which I have ordered him to place at Dorogobouje, and he will conduct strong patrols of cavalry in all directions to make all the stragglers go out and make them join. All these orders, I give them assuming that the enemy does not hold in Viazma and does not disturb these provisions.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19157. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA

Vialma. August 29, 1812.

Mr. Duke of Bassano, we are in Viazma. The enemy continues his retreat on Moscow. I am still waiting for new information to know the march of the 16th and 22nd Russian divisions coming from Moldavia. I have written to the Emperor of Austria to beg him to strengthen the corps of Prince Schwarzenberg by 3,000 men of cavalry, and to send 6,000 men to repair his losses. Pass the letter. The divisions of Prince Schwarzenberg, incomplete as they are, can not make more than 8 to 10,000 men. Accompany this letter with a letter to Mr. de Metternich.

Take the orders to Gdansk and Konigsberg so that all the stores, equipment and personnel, all that is in a position to fight, will turn on Kovno to go first to Vilna and then to Smolensk.

I ordered the Major General to place General Jomini elsewhere.

Speak loudly to General Hogendorp to moderate his[189]

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passion and gives rise to no complaint. Accelerate the formation of Lithuanian troops.

Reiterate the orders to the governor of Danzig to send the four demi - brigades of march from the Lagrange division to go to Konigsberg, and to the governor of Konigsberg to send them to Kovno. It's time to enjoy the rest of the good season to get them to join the corps where they need to be incorporated.

Write to the Duke of Taranto to have the consul of Russia expelled from Memel.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19158. - TO FRANCOIS I, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, IN VIENNA.

Viazma, August 29, 1812.

Dear Brother and dear Father-in-law, Your Imperial Majesty having promised me at Dresden to keep the corps of Prince Schwarzenberg complete, and even to increase it if it were necessary, I beg your Majesty to strengthen this corps of 3,000 men of cavalry and 6,000 men of infantry, to repair the difference of the existing strength in the present, and to put him in a position to honor himself and to resist the reinforcements which the enemy may send to Tormasof.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of S.A.I. the Emperor of Austria.

19159. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VIAZMA.

Viazma, August 30, 1812, eleven o'clock in the evening.

Cousin, give orders to the King of Naples to make an ordinary day tomorrow, but nevertheless to be eight or nine leagues from Viazma, and to be able, the day after tomorrow; to reach Ghjatsk.

It is proper that, in case of an event, the viceroy may turn the right of the enemy, and Prince Poniatowski his left, and that the three vanguards may be so inclined that they may give together; which will necessarily spare blood, and will prevent the enemy from being able to resist. Give the viceroy an order to follow the enemy on the left and so that they can turn the right of[190]

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the enemy, to find himself at the height of the King of Naples, who is today in the village of Klokova and who will tomorrow take a short walk that will take him to eight or nine leagues from Viazma. Warn the Viceroy that it is necessary that with all his cavalry and a good vanguard of infantry and artillery he can turn the right of the enemy and take part in the cannon if there is any. at; that it is the only way to save blood and speed up the retreat of the enemy. Give the same order to Prince Poniatowski for the right: he must turn the left of the enemy.

The Prince of Eckmühl will follow, so as to find himself a league behind the King of Naples, and the Duke of Elchingen two leagues behind Prince Eckmühl. The Duke of Treviso will leave at ten o'clock in the morning to go to Federoskoie, behind the Duke of Elchingen. The Duke of Abrantes will go to Viazma, cross the bridges on the right of the city and take a position a league forward.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19160. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VIAZMA.

Viazma, August 30, 1812, midnight.

Cousin, give orders to General Eble to leave at five in the morning to join the vanguard. He will repair all the bridges on the rear. He will walk with all his staff and equipment which consists of tools and other gear of this kind, but he will not take the boats with him. You will make it clear to this general that, as we are almost in the presence of the enemy, and it is probable that in three or four marches there will be a general battle, success may depend on the speed with which the outlets and bridges over torrents and ravines; that it is therefore indispensable that he be himself so that, as soon as it is possible, he can work to establish these outlets.

For an army like this, you always need at least six. To this end, he must consult with the engineers, and wait for no new order to order the establishment of the bridges over the ravines and small rivers.

Order General Chasseloup also to leave at five o'clock in the morning, to take with him all his personnel and equipment, except a company which may be necessary to repair the bridges which are here and complete the handling and furnaces. Make him understand [191]

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the order which you give to General Eble, the necessity that he be in the vanguard and that he confer with General Eble; that he centralize all the means of all the corps, those of the engineers and General Eble, so that all the bridges and bad passages on the road are repaired, so that there is on the brooks or ravines by which opens the vanguard at least six bridges and six great outlets, so that the army could quickly arrive at its positions or withdraw if the case arrived. Also let him understand that we are in the presence of the enemy; that it is probable that a great battle will take place before four or five marches, and that the intelligence of these six markets and the speed with which they are made can greatly influence success; it must be taken care that the six bridges have six different outlets, because if several had the same outlet they would be canceled. In concert with General Eble, the general means of the parks joined to the means of the corps d'armee, there is something to be done very quickly. Also let it be known that it is possible that on the battlefield I have one or two positions removed in line night, so there must be not only engineers and sappers, but quite a few tools are ready by the minute. Let him speak at five o'clock in the morning to arrive, and send an officer of the genius to the vanguard near the King of Naples to know his movements and the nature of the ground.

Let me know where the small headquarters are, where they are and when they can leave.

According to the original non signed. Depot of the war.

19161. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VIAZMA

Vyazma. August 31, 1812.

Cousin, order the Duke of Danzig and the Duke of Treviso to have brandy taken for ten days from the Guard. Order the officer Joinville, of the small headquarters, to load the spirits that he would have empty, to serve a day of battle.

Order the Duke of Istria to leave with all the cavalry of the Guard and to make six leagues today, so as to arrive in the day of tomorrow at the small town of Ghjatsk. Order the Duke of Danzig to leave with the old Guard at noon, and to make five or six leagues today to arrive at Ghjatsk tomorrow.[192]

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Order General Sorbier to leave with all the reserve of the Guard. Finally, order the small headquarters to leave before noon.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19162. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VELITCHEVO.

Velitchevo, September 1st, 1812, one o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, write to the Viceroy that until this hour I see that his army corps is always behind; it is urgent, however, that he should always be forward on the left, so as to be able to turn the enemy who is on the high road before the vanguard of the King of Naples, for the reason that, the position of the high road Being determined, the enemy can strengthen himself with redoubts or take good positions, while the position of the left and the right is not determined, he can not oppose any redoubt on these sides. The viceroy must therefore leave early and not pass through the city of Ghjatsk, but two leagues above.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19163. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VELITCHEVO.

Velitchevo, September 1st, 1812, one o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, order the King of Naples to advance at five o'clock in the morning, in order to arrive early at Ghjatsk, and to be able to occupy him if the enemy disputes him. It is necessary that the Viceroy turn it to the left, at the same time that Prince Poniatowski will turn it to the right. A division of cuirassiers will leave at six o'clock in the morning, and the other three divisions will be able to leave at seven or eight o'clock. Give orders accordingly to the Viceroy, to Prince Poniatowski, to the Prince of Eckmühl, and to the Duke of Elchingen.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[193]

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19164. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VELITCHEVO.

Velitchevo. September 1st, 1812.

I desire that the division of my Guard join as soon as possible, leaving a brigadier-general at Smolensk, and taking with him under his escort the headquarters, the treasure, and the artillery convoys which might be found. The 3rd battalions of the Vistula must have arrived; so there must be at present nearly 3,000 men. The Major-General will recommend that the Smolensk cavalry regiment should conduct patrols on the Smolensk road in Moscow in order to maintain free communications and escort the couriers. It will be proper for my guard to make good days, and General Delaborde to teach me every day, by the passage of the couriers, of the place where he is. This is necessary to adjust the movements accordingly. The major general will also write to the governor of Smolensk to give Vitebsk news of the army and to give us news of Vitebsk,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19165. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Velilchevo, September 1st, 1812,

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I ordered the advance of 500,000 francs. for the Vilna government. The government of Mohilef seems well intentioned. This government could also raise some regiments, and perhaps also Vitebsk. If, however, the difficulty of the cadres prevents them from being created in these two governments, one could always call the conscripts, since they are Polish and speak Polish. For this purpose, consult with the government commission. For a long time I have asked for two battalions of light infantry, guard-chasses. If I am seconded, the garrison of Bobruisk should not worry me, this place should be surrounded by the troops of the country, Ring though the only help I received from Lithuania is limited to twelve guards of honor. I was obliged to put garrisons at Kovno and Vilna. It was not the same with the Grand Duchy: it was scarcely two months since I was there, that he had furnished troops to surround Danzig, and many were online. Prince Poniatowski and the Vistula Legion out of[194]

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cadres; it is therefore the most difficult, but the conscripts can be lifted. Until this time, nothing has been done. So have a conference on this with the members of the government. The least I could hope for was that Bobrouisk would have been surrounded by the troops of the country, and that they would have been in sufficient number to police, to garnish Drouya and the weak points of the Dvina, to escort the convoys, summer. It is probable that in a few days I will have a battle; if the enemy loses it, he will lose Moscow. My communications from Vilna to Smolensk are not difficult, but from Smolensk here they can become so. There must be troops, national guards; they do not have to be good, since they are only opposed to peasants.

I ordered the Dombrowski division to surround Bobrouisk and try to seize it. In this sense, write to the governor of Minsk. In case Prince Schwarzenberg needs reinforcements, Dombrowski 's division can serve him, as well as the troops of the Grand Duchy. The Emperor of Austria will supply 3,000 cavalrymen and 6,000 infantry. I would very much like the Duke de Bellune to serve me as a reserve here. See the government for recruits scattered around the country to meet in Minsk. There must be nothing more to fear. It is necessary that the Duke de Bellune organizes his corps well and ensures his subsistence well.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19166. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Velitchevo. September 1st, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, send to General Loison that I have ordered that five battalions, of the twelve who are at Danzig, go to Konigsberg, and that twelve battalions, which are in Swedish Pomerania, are going to Danzig, my intention being to make them continue their route on the army. Reiterate to General Loison the order to send out all the troops I have designated for Kovno and Minsk,

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassauo.[195]

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19167. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK.

Ghjatsk. September 1st, 1812.

My Cousin, order the Duke d'Abrantes to make his day tomorrow to approach the city, without tiring his troops too much; let him make six leagues. The 400 horses he left in the rear guard must go to Viazma. While waiting for them to arrive, he will leave 100 horses at the disposal of General Baraguey d'Hilliers.

Write to General Baraguey Hilliers to continue organizing the road to Ghjatsk, the limit of his government, and that there was at all stations a redoubt in which 100 men and horses of the courier be shut up. Ask him to write to you every day by the couriers, and to give you news of General Pino and Pajol's division.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19168. - ORDER OF THE DAY

Imperial Camp of Ghjalsk, September 1st, 1812.

His Majesty the Emperor and King ordered the following:

1st All coaches, vans or luggage and food wagons will pass after artillery and ambulance cars.

2nd Any carriage, van or private wagons that will be found obstructing the march of artillery and ambulances will be burned.

3rd The artillery and ambulance vans can only follow the vanguard.

Baggage wagons, large and small carts can only follow the vanguard at a distance of two leagues. Any wagons that will be encountered closer to the vanguard than two leagues will be burned.

4th At the end of the day, the wagons will not be able to join the advance guard until it has taken a position, and after the cannonade or the fusillade is no longer heard. Any wagons which would be found at a distance of less than two leagues from the vanguard, before it has taken up position, and during the time that the cannonade or the fusillade were to be heard, will be burned.

5th In the morning, from the vanguard, vans and wagons other than those of artillery or ambulances will be parked off the road. Those who are found on the road obstructing the march of the artillery or the movement of the columns will be burned.[196]

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6th The preceding dispositions are common to all divisions of infantry and cavalry of the army which are not part of the vanguard.

7th His Majesty orders the chiefs of staff of the divisions and corps of infantry and cavalry and the directors of the artillery parks to operate the baggage coaches after those of the artillery and the ambulances, separated and under the guidance of a divisional postal officer.

8th Set Majesty orders General Count Belliard, Chief of the General Staff of the Vanguard, and the Chiefs of Staff of the Corps and Divisions of the Infantry and Cavalry of the Vanguard, to take the most effective measures for the execution of these provisions, and to designate the place where the cars of the vanguard must remain before the parade while it will fight. the orders of the chief of the staff of the vanguard, which can not take on him to advance any of these wings to more than two leagues of the vanguard.

9th The present order will be read tomorrow at noon to all the corps; and his Majesty makes it known that on the 3rd of September he will burn himself and in his presence the wagons which he finds contrary to the present order,

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19169, - TO MARSHAL DAVUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORRS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GHJATSK,

Ghjatsk, September 2, 1812, three o'clock in the morning,

My Cousin, I was ill satisfied yesterday with the way your corps works, All your companies of sappers, instead of repairing bridges and outlets, have done nothing, except those of the Compans division. No direction had been given to the troops and baggage to pass the parade, so that everyone was on top of each other. Finally, instead of being a league of the avant-garde, you were on it. All the luggage, carriages, etc., were in front of your corps, even in front of the vanguard, so that your wagons were in the city that the light cavalry had not yet reached. Take steps to remedy such a bad order, which can essentially compromise the entire army.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.[197]

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19170. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK

Ghjalsk, September 2, 1812.

Cousin, I have not seen for two days the report of the position of Prince Eckmühl. I do not know where his corps is. Let me know where it comes from. It is his duty to report at least every day.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19171. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK.

Ghjatsk, September 2, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the King of Naples, the Prince of Eckmühl, the King-Viceroy, Prince Poniatowski, the Duke of Elchingen, to take a rest today, to rally the troops, to have three hours at noon, an appeal, and to make known positively the number of men who will be present at the battle; to inspect arms, cartridges, artillery and ambulances, to inform the soldiers that we are approaching the moment of a general battle, and that we must prepare for it. It is necessary that, before ten o'clock in the evening, I should have states which make known to me the number of men of infantry and cavalry, the number of pieces of artillery, their caliber, the number of shots to be fired, the number of number of cartridges per soldier, the number of cartridges in the caissons, the number of ambulance boxes belonging either to the regiments or to the divisions or corps, the number of surgeons, the number of dressings that may be to do. These states will also make known to me the detached men who would not be present at the battle if it were to take place tomorrow, but who could be made to join if it were done in two or three days, indicating the place where they are and the means to be taken for this purpose. These states must be made with the greatest attention, since their result must depend on my resolution. They must first understand all the men present on the call and then all those who would be present at the battle, You will also add that I be made known the number of horses that would be summoned, and the time it would take to summon the cavalry and put it in state for the battle. The King of Naples may, if he thinks fit, rectify his position, advancing his light cavalry and his little vanguard some[198]

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leagues. Prince Poniatowski and the Viceroy will also rectify their position.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19172. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK.

Ghjatsk. September 2, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the Duke of Treviso to go here and to cross the river to take a position in the suburbs, on the right,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19173. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK.

Ghjatsk, September 2, 1812.

My Cousin, the General Staff, is of no service to me; neither the Provost Marshal of the Gendarmerie, nor the Post Master, nor the Staff Officers, none of them serve as they should. You received my agenda for luggage. Make sure that the first baggage I burn will not be those of the General Staff. If you do not have a post master, name one; that all the baggage is walking under his direction. It is impossible to see a worse order than that which reigns.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19174. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK.

Ghjatsk. September 2, 1812.

My cousin, order General Baraguey of Hilliers to send from Smolensk, under the command of General Lanusse, the regiment of the march of the Guard to which will be joined the battalion of march of the Guard which must have arrived on August 30th, the four pieces of cannon of the Guard which General Delaborde must have left at Smolensk, the 3rd Corps Regiment from Vitebsk; which will make 3,500 infantrymen; and finally the following cavalry: 470 horses of the regiment of cavalry march, which must have arrived on the 29th of August; 360 horses of the 6th Cavalry Regiment, which[199]

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must have arrived on August 30; 500 horses from the 5th Cavalry Regiment, which must have arrived on September 2nd, and 125 horses from the Marching Squadron, which must also have arrived on September 2nd, making 1,455 horses. The column of General Lanusse will therefore be nearly 5,000 men, infantry and cavalry. The treasure, if it is not gone, and all the convoys that are still at Smolensk will leave under this escort.

On September 10, General Baraguey of Hilliers will send from Smolensk, under the command of a superior officer whom he will appoint, a second column composed of two battalions of the 83rd light with their two pieces of cannon, forming 1,200 men, and the battalion of Hesse-Darmstadt, forming 700 men, in all 1,900 men of infantry, and besides 700 men of cavalry, composed of the marching squadron of Elbing and the marching squadron of Vilna; which will bring this second column to 2,600 men, infantry and cavalry. These two columns will be directed to Ghjalsk.

General Barbargre will take the command of Smolensk, which will have for garrison three battalions of the Vistula, with a total strength of 2,100 men, a battalion of the Vistula, strong of 1,000 men, a Polish regiment of light horse-horses of 400 men, a company artillery and eighteen pieces of artillery supplied by the general of artillery; which will make 3 to 4,000 men, independently of the battalions of isolated men that will be formed. The 3rd battalions of the 1st and 2nd regiments of the Vistula, forming 1,500 men, must have arrived on the 30th of August; the 3rd battalion of the 3rd regiment of the Vistula arrives on 9th September; the battalion of the Vistula also arrives on the 9th of September; finally, the battalion of isolated men must already be of more than 1,000 men. It is necessary, for this purpose, that no isolated man, detachment, marching company, or man leaving the hospitals should leave Smolensk; they must be gathered in a battalion of march.

A marching regiment of 3,000 men of infantry and another of 500 men of cavalry are at Minsk and must arrive at Smolensk. When they have arrived they will remain to garrison there; the three battalions of the Vistula will then go to Dorogobouje and Viazrna, and the Westphalian battalions with the Westphalian cavalry will arrive at Ghjatsk.

With these three garrison corps at Smolensk, Viazma, and Ghjatsk, General Baraguey of HiiIlers will be able to maintain the freedom of the road and the communications of Smolensk with the army.[200]

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New troops must arrive successively at Smolensk, such as the 129th regiment, the Illyrian regiment, etc.; but by the time they arrive, I will have time to give orders.

Finally, the Duke of Bellune, who is now in Vilna, sets out with his army corps for Minsk. If communications with the army should be interrupted, General Baraguey of Hilliers should correspond with this marshal, who is warned of what he must do in all circumstances. It would also correspond with General Dombrowski, who is with a division on the side of Mohilef. He would send his dispatches to the governor of Mohilef and the governor of Minsk.

Order the Westphalian Battalion and the two guns at Orcha to go to Viazma and Ghjatsk to join the other Westphalian battalions. The governor of Mohilef will replace this battalion at Orcha. Order Vitebsk that a well-armed and well-organized marching battalion should proceed to Smolensk, where it will remain garrisoned until further notice. Finally, order the Sappers Company and the Danube Company at Vitebsk to go to Smolensk.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19175. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Ghjatsk, September 2, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, I received the report of the Duke of Ragusa on the battle of 22 (1). It is impossible to read anything more insignificant; there are more faults and more cogs than in a clock, and not a word that makes known the real state of things.

Here is my way of thinking about this affair, and the conduct you must take.

You will wait for the Duke of Ragusa to arrive, to be recovered from his wound, and almost entirely restored. You will then ask him to answer these questions categorically:

Why did he fight without the orders of his general-in-chief?

Placed by the general dispositions of the army at Salamanca, it was very simple that he defended himself if he were attacked; but, since

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1) Battle of Arapiles or Salamanca.[201]

had evacuated Salamanca from several marches, why did he not instruct his general-in-chief?

Why did he not take his orders on the party he was to follow, subordinated to the general system of my armies in Spain?

There is a case of insubordination which is the cause of all the misfortunes of this affair. And even if he had not been obliged to communicate with his general in order to carry out the orders he would receive, how could he get out of his defense on the Duero when, without a great effort of imagination, it was easy to conceive that it could be rescued by the arrival of the division of dragoons, of about thirty pieces of cannon, and of more than 15,000 men of French troops whom the King had in his hand?

And how could he get out of the defense to take the offensive, without waiting for the meeting and help of a corps of 15,000 to 17,000 men?

The King had ordered the Northern Army to send his cavalry to his assistance; he was on the march; the Duke of Ragusa could not have been ignorant of it, since this cavalry arrived on the night of the battle.

From Salamanca to Burgos there are many steps; why did he not delay two days to have the help of that cavalry which was so important to him?

It would be necessary to have an explanation of the reasons which led the Duke of Ragusa not to wait for the orders of his general-general to give battle, to give battle without waiting the reinforcements that the King, as superior commander of my armies in Spain, could withdraw from the army of the Center, the army of Valencia, and Andalusia. The only fund of the Army of the Center furnished 15,000 men and 2,500 horses, which could be restored at the same time as the Duke of Ragusa made the French army beat; and, taking in these two armies, the King could bring him 40,000 men.

Finally, the Duke of Ragusa knowing that 1,500 horses had left Burgos to join him, how did he not wait for them?

In gleaming coincide these two circumstances, to have taken the offensive without the orders of his general-in-chief and not to have delayed the battle of two days to receive 15,000 infantry men that led him the King and 1,500 horses of the army of the North, one is justified in thinking that the Duke of Ragusa feared that the King would participate in success, and that he sacrificed to vanity the glory of the country and the advantage of my service.

Order the divisional generals to send statements of their[202]

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losses. It is intolerable to hold false accounts and hide the truth from me.

Order General Clausel, who commands the army, to send the situation before and after the battle.

Also ask the corps leaders their exact situations. You will make known to the Duke of Ragusa, in due course, how indignant I am at the inexplicable conduct which he has held, not waiting two days for the help of the Army of the Center and the Army of the North rejoin.

I look forward to the arrival of the general aide-de-camp, to obtain precise information. What he wrote does not mean much.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19176. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK.

Chjatsk, September 3, 1812.

Cousin, write to the generals commanding the corps d'armee that we are losing a lot of people every day by the lack of order which exists in the way of going to the subsistence; that it is urgent for them to consult with the various corps commanders on the measures to be taken to put an end to a state of affairs which threatens the army with its destruction; that the number of prisoners that the enemy makes goes up to several hundred every day; that it is necessary, under the most severe penalties, to forbid the soldiers to depart, and to send to provisions as the ordinance prescribed to do for fodder: by army corps when the army is united, and by division when it is separated; that a general or superior officer should command the fodder for food, and that sufficient force should protect the operation against the peasants and the Cossacks; that as much as possible, when we meet the inhabitants, we will demand what they have to provide, without doing more harm to the country; lastly, that this object is so important that I expect from the zeal of the generals and corps leaders for my service to take all the measures capable of putting an end to the disorder in question. You will write to the King of Naples, who commands the cavalry, that it is indispensable that the cavalry should completely cover the foragers, and thus place the detachments that will go to the food, sheltered from the Cossacks and the enemy's cavalry. You will recommend to Prince Eckmühl not to approach more than[203]

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two leagues from the vanguard. You will make him feel that this is important so that the foragers do not go to the food too close to the enemy. At last you will make known to the Duke of Elchingen that he loses more people every day than if one gave battle; it is therefore necessary that the service of the foragers be better regulated and that one does not move away so much.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19177. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK.

Ghjatsk, September 3, 1812.

Cousin, show my dissatisfaction with General Dutaillis, commander in Warsaw, of his passing a Russian courier to the duchy. The signature of a diplomatic agent, even that of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Police, or the Minister of War of France, could not authorize General Dulaillis to let a Russian courier pass. He had to hold him until he had reported to the Major General. I can not conceive that he can thus open the frontiers to my enemies; it's a real crime. Give precise orders on the rear so that no Passport Holder of the Duke of Bassano or the Minister of Police may be allowed to pass if a special order of you is not attached. Holders of these passports must be detained and their dispatches sent to headquarters. I am surprised that, since the time I have been in the war, I am always obliged to repeat such orders, so naturally indicated by the usages of war, and so intimately connected with the safety of the army.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19178. - TO THE GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNTY OF CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Ghjatsk, September 3, 1812.

Count of Cessac, the 11th corps, which the Duke de Castiglione commands, lacks directors. Give orders for it to be sent. For the last twenty years that I have commanded the French armies, I have never seen the military administration any more; there is nobody: what has been sent here is without aptitude and without knowledge. The inexperience of surgeons makes it harder to[204]

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the army that enemy batteries. The four authorizing officers who accompany the Intendant General have no experience. The health committee is guilty of sending so ignorant surgeons. Remove administrators for all corps. We need hospital staff and 150 surgeons. As for the institution of the nursing companies, it was, like all the operations of the administration of the war, entirely missed. As soon as they were given rifles and military uniforms, they no longer wanted to serve hospitals. It was necessary to give them a round hat, a frac, a white staff and at most a sword. Send from within administrations and nursing companies, if there are any, but organized as I said above.

As for the proposal of Bavaria, we do not lack biscuit or salt meat; if we were missing, the supply to Linz would be of no result, transport being impossible.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19179. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Ghjalsk. September 4, 1812,

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I intercepted a letter from Tormasof who carried letters dated from the Kovel camp on August 25th. It results from these letters that the four divisions of the corps of Tormasof are only 12,000 men; that he had only 16,000 all-included men in the battle of the 12th of August, and that he expected two divisions of Moldavia, which, given the losses made, were only 7,000 men. There is nothing to frighten Prince von Schwarzenberg. Tell him that I have written to the Emperor to send him a reinforcement of 3,000 men of cavalry and 6,000 men of infantry.

It follows from the same letters that General Kamensky, who was ill, left the army, and that the command of his corps was given to General Markof; that, on August 10, Tormusof captured 3 officers, 13 non-commissioned officers and 200 soldiers; finally he retires to Lutsk.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives,[205]

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19180. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK.

Ghjatsk. September 4, 1812.

My cousin, order that all the loaded or empty carriages which are here leave to follow the little headquarters. Order the old Guard to leave at noon, and to make today a line of four or five leagues.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19181. - ORDER FOR THE BATTLE.

At the camp, two leagues behind Mojaisk, September 6, 1812 (1).

At break of day, the two new batteries built during the night on Prince Eckmühl's plateau will begin their fire against the two opposing enemy batteries.

At the same moment, General Pernety, commanding the artillery of the 1st corps, with the thirty guns which will be in Compans division, and all the officers of the Dessaix and Friant divisions, who will advance, will begin the fire and crush with shells the enemy battery, which, by this means, will have against it twenty-four pieces of the Guard, thirty of the division Compans and eight of the divisions Friant and Dessaix; total, sixty-two guns.

General Foucher, commanding the artillery of the 3rd corps, will be carried with all the howitzers of the 3rd and the 8th corps, which are in number of sixteen, around the battery which beats the redoubt of left, which will make forty cannon with fire against this battery.

General Sorbier will be ready, at the first command, to detach himself with all the Howitzers of the Guard, to go on one or the other redoubt.

During this cannonade Prince Poniatowski will move from the village to the forest and turn the position of the enemy. General Compans will follow the forest to remove the first redoubt.

The combat thus engaged, the orders will be given according to the dispositions of the enemy.

The cannonade of the left will begin at the same time as or hear the cannonade of the right. A strong shootings of skirmishers will be engaged by Morand's division and by the viceroy's divisions, as soon as they see the attack on the right begun. The viceroy will seize the village (2), will emerge by its three bridges on the height,

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1) See the Battle of Moskva. - 2) Borodino.[206]

in the time that the generals Morand and Gerard will emerge, under the orders of the viceroy, to seize the redoubt of the enemy and form the line of the army.

All will be done with order and method and taking care to always hold line large amount of reserves.

According to the minute. Deposit of the war.

19182. - PROCLAMATION.

At the imperial camp, on the heights of Borodiuo, September 7, 1812, two o'clock in the morning.

Soldiers, this is the battle you have longed for! From now on, victory depends on you: it is necessary for us. It will give us abundance, good winter quarters and a speedy return to the homeland! Drive as at Austerlitz, Friedland, Vitebsk, Smolensk, and the most remote posterity proudly quotes your conduct in this day; let it be said of you: He was at that great battle under the walls of Moscow!

NAPOLEON.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur*, September 27, 1812.

19183. - TO FRANÇOIS 1st, EUPEREUR OF AUSTRIA, IN VIENNA.

Mojaisk, September 9, 1812.

Dear Brother and dear Father-in-law, I hasten to announce to Your Imperial Majesty the happy outcome of the battle of the Moskva, which took place on the 7th of September, in the village of Borodino. Knowing the personal interest of your Majesty, I have the duty of announcing to myself this memorable event and the good state of my health. I estimate the loss of the enemy at 40 or 50,000 men; he had from 120 to 130,000 men in battle. I lost 8 to 10,000 killed or wounded. I took 60 pieces of cannon and made a large number of prisoners, My vanguard is six leagues ahead.

I beg your Majesty again to strengthen the Prince of Schwarzenberg, so that he may support the honor of the Austrian arms, as he has already done.

I ask especially to your Majesty to preserve to you his good graces and his same sentiments, which he owes me for those whom I bear to her.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the Emperor of Austria.[207]

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19184. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 9, 1812.

Cousin, order that the 3rd and 4th Battalions of the 33rd Light be sent to Smolensk. Order that the Guard voltigeurs go from Vitebsk to Smolensk. Order that two well-armed battalions, each of 1,000 men, should go from Vitebsk to Smolensk, and from there to the army. Order that the 3rd battalions of the 4th, 7th and 9th Polish regiments go to Smolensk. Order that the four demi-brigades of march who were part of the Lagrange division go to Smolensk. Order that the 6th battalions of the 19th, 46th, 37th and 56th make from Danzig to Smolensk. Order that the Westphalian regiment which left Konigsberg and the two of Saxons go to Smolensk. Order that the Illyrian Regiment and the 129th go to Smolensk. The Illyrian regiment will leave the cadre of a battalion at Minsk, and the 129th a depot, to receive the Polish recruits. Order that all marching battalions and squadrons, artillery detachments, ambulance boxes, war ammunition, proceed to Smolensk. Order that all available men from the depots of Glogau, Küstrin, Stettin, Danzig, Warsaw, Thorn, Konigsberg, and mounted cavalry depots of Prussia, Meretch, Kovno, Lepel, etc., be directed to Smolensk.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

11985. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 9, 1812.

Leaks make the recognition of the city; draw a road that turns the defile.

Have two bridges built on the Moskva.

Write to Prince Eugene that he can go to Rouza and run parties on Zvenigorod, gather a lot of cattle and food, and news;

To the Prince of Eckmühl, to occupy Borisovo and collect food and news;

To the duke of Elchingen, to come tomorrow with his corps to Mojaisk, and leave the Duke d'Abrantes to guard the field of battle.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

This letter is entirely from the hand of the Emperor.[208]

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19186. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Mojaisk, 10 September 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, we supposes that Wittgenstein left Drissa to go between Petersburg and Moscow. If that is true, write to Marshal Saint-Cyr to pursue him and to arrive at the same time as him to cover my flank. In this case, also write to the Duke of Taranto that he has carte blanche to make the siege of Riga or do what he believes will be most useful to my service.

Write to Prince Schwarzenberg that the enemy has done everything to prevent us from reaching Moscow; that he will do everything to drive us out of it; that I am certain that all that was at Mozyr and Kief was going to Moscow; that he must follow the movement of the enemy, and let himself be deceived; that if the enemy who is opposite him falls on me, he must follow him and fall upon him. This is of course. Explain yourself well on this. From now on the enemy, struck in the heart, cares only for the heart and no longer thinks of the ends.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19187. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Mojaisk, September 10, 1812,

Duke de Bassano, I have written to you to recommend that you supply the corps of Saint - Cyr by Kovno, Vilna, Gloubokoie, and Vidzy. I wrote to you that all the convoys of clothing should be directed to Smolensk. I wrote to you that all the artillery, the caissons, which are in Vilna and Kovno, should be directed to the army by every possible means. I have written to you that the cavalry depots of Kovno, Meretch, Lepel, Glubokoye, send for all the mounted men to Smolensk. I have written to you to direct from Vilna, from Kovno, etc., all those who come out of the hospitals of Lithuania, well armed and well organized, on Smolensk. I have written to you that the nine regiments of Lithuania and the battalions of chasseurs should be formed; if I had them, they would serve me against the peasants of Russia. Give me an account of all this and go into all the details.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[209]

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19188. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 10, 1812.

My cousin, order that the review of the cavalry depots of Lepel, Glubokoye, Minsk, Borisof, Merech, Kovno be made, and that we make it leave the most mounted men that we can. We will take the horse from one side, the saddle from the other; the men will be taken in good condition. Thus the deposits will be squeezed, and all that they can supply, without regard to the regiments, will be sent away. The horses, which might need a month's rest, will be left at the depots with their harness, and with armed men and in a stall, so that in a month's time everything will be able to leave. Horses out of service and not likely to recover, we will cut them down. The remainder of the men will be directed to Warsaw with the harnesses, to be reassembled and rehabilitated to leave by the care of General Dulaillis, who will pass for this purpose the marches, and which will correspond with the commanders of the depots of Elbing, Glogau and Berlin, in order to bring in men or to draw horses as needed.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19189. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 10, 1812.

Cousin, write to the general of the artillery that he does not burn anything; that all he can not take away must be placed two leagues behind the field of battle, in the convent where I leave the hospital. The general of artillery will assemble there the artillery taken from the enemy, that dismounted, will establish there a workshop of repairs, will leave an artillery company with the means to take advantage of four to six mouths to defend the place . There will be a commander and a garrison of 1,000 men. We can also gather there the cavalry depots of the army and the tired or wounded horses. Give orders accordingly.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. There will be an engineer officer for serrated and do well entrench the position.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[210]

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19190. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK

Mojaisk, September 10, 1812.

Cousin, order General Dombrowski to rejoin the army with his division, if he sees no danger for Minsk from Bobrouisk's garrison and Hertel's corps, which is said to have the Grand Army; let him bring with him as much artillery ammunition as he can.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Write to the governor of Minsk that he must employ the National Guards and the Gamekeepers' Battalions to protect the province.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19191. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 10, 1812.

My Cousin, by the condition given to me by the general of artillery, I see that, the four convoys arrived, it will be wanting to replace the consumed ammunition: thirty caissons of 12, eighty of six, twenty-four of 6 inches 4 lines and fifty-two 5-inch 6 lines, total one hundred and eighty-six boxes. It is necessary to order that these munitions, forming one hundred and eighty-six caissons, be the first charged for here. I must not experience any diminution of cannon; dismantled parts must already be repaired; those who will have flared lights, we will put a grain in Moscow; only the dead parts should be returned.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19192. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk. September 10, 1812.

My Cousin, we need French rifles; we need it in Vilna, Minsk, Smolensk and the abbey near the broomfield Isle, to arm the stragglers and, of course, the wounded who lost theirs. It will take 20,000 rifles in these[211]

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four places; let me know what we have, come and go.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19193. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 10, 1812.

Cousin, let Marshal Saint-Cyr know what measures I have taken to ensure his subsistence; for his part, he must send to Kovno to take rice, brandy and biscuit by all the sails he has. Tell him that Wittgenstein's corps is not 20,000 all-inclusive; that he is superior in strength, and that, if he concerted with the Duke of Taranto, he might attack it and tumble it by turning it.

NAPOLEON..

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19194. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 10, 1812.

Cousin, order the viceroy to move with his corps and the 8th cavalry corps to Zvenigorod, to immediately lay two bridges on the road to Kubinskoye, to be in communication with the King of Naples who goes there to get the whole country right and left, to send news and to send me guides, etc.

Order Prince Eckmühl to support the King of Naples, who goes to Kubinskoye. Order the Duke of Elchingen to go to-day three hours ahead of the town. Return the cavalry brigade which the King of Naples left on the field of battle, the Duke d'Abrantes being sufficient.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19195. - CIRCULAR TO THE BISHOPS OF THE EMPIRE.

From our imperial district of Mojaisk, September 10, 1812.

Bishop of ...., the passage of the Niemen, the Dvina, the Borysthenes, the battles of Mohilef, Drissa, Polotsk, Ostrovno, Smolensk, finally the battle of the Moskva, are[212]

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so many motives for addressing thanksgiving to the God of armies. Our intention is therefore that upon receipt of this letter you will consult with whom by right.

Gather my people in the churches to sing prayers, according to the custom and rules of the Church in such circumstances.

NAPOLEON.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of September 21, 1812.

19196. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK

Mojaisk, September 11, 1812,

My cousin, write to the Duke of Belluno that the 8th Westphalian regiment, the Low Saxon regiment, that of Rechten, the 3rd infantry marching regiment formed at Konigsberg, the 3rd battalions of the 4th, 7th and 9th Polish regiments, the 8th 9th, 10th and 11th Cavalry Regiments must all be directed to Smolensk; that the enemy, attacked by the heart, no longer plays at the extremities; that he does everything to prevent us from entering Moscow and shows the determination to do everything to drive us out as soon as possible. It is therefore from Smolensk to Moscow that we must go, the numerous troops which arrive behind, and those of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania being sufficient to guard the rear. It is also necessary for the Duke of Belluno to be ready with his whole army assembled to carry himself from Smolensk to Moscow, in order to strengthen the army as the enemy strengthens his, Vitebsk does not need to nothing; so few troops are there, the enemy will leave him alone; I will not hold anyone there until my hospital is evacuated. It is therefore necessary that the Duke de Bellune directs everything, battalions, squadrons, artillery, isolated men, on Smolensk, so that he can come to Moscow,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19197. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mozhaysk. September 11, 1812.

My Cousin, you assure me that there are 9,000 French rifles in Kovno, and in Vilna 2,000, which is 11,000. You will divide them from the[213]

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as follows: 3,000 to Mojnisk, 4,000 to Smolensk, 2,000 to Vilna, 2,000 to Minsk, total 11,000.

The 40,000 foreign rifles will be held at the disposal of the Governor General of Lithuania. It is not necessary at Smolensk.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19198. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 11, 1812.

Cousin, order the Mecklenburg Regiment, which is at Vilna and Minsk, to go to Smolensk. Order the Hesse Regiment, which is in Vilna, to proceed to Smolensk. Order that the velites of the guard, of Turin, who arrive on September 19th in Berlin, go to Warsaw. Give the same order for honor guards and velites of Tuscany. Reissue the order that the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th demi-brigades march to Smolensk. Order two artillery companies of the Magdeburg siege crew to go to Smolensk. Give the order that only one artillery company remain at Pillau; let the other go to Smolensk, Give the same order for Swedish Pomerania, for Spandau, for Thorn, which will make six new artillery companies at Smolensk. Order that the 7th Wurtemburg Regiment, which is at Danzig, proceed to Smolensk. Order that the foreign marching battalion at Thorn go to Smolensk. Order that the battalion of the 22nd light at Thorn go to Smolensk. Order that the 1st battalion of the Mediterranean, which is in Glogau, go to Warsaw. I ordered that the twelve battalions that are part of the Morand division in Pomerania go to Danzig. Order that as soon as the head has arrived, the regiments Nos. 4 and 5 of the Confederation and that of Prince Primate will be sent for Smolensk, and the Neapolitans for Kovno; it is sufficient that Danzig still has eight battalions and two at Konigsberg. A brigade of six cohorts of National Guards, forming 4,000 men, having arrived at Bremen, order that it proceed to Hamburg, and that the Haudelet Division should proceed to Swedish Pomerania with four of its demi-brigades, and leaving the other two in Mecklenburg,

Give the order that the 32nd Division, under the orders of a brigadier general and composed of the regiments of Belle-Isle, Ré, Walcheren[214]

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and from the Mediterranean, goes to Warsaw. The Duke of Castiglione will be left with only the 30th and 31st Divisions, which, with national guard brigades, is sufficient in the current season.

Order the 4th Westphalian Regiment, from Stralsund to Danzig, to proceed to Smolensk. Give the same order to the Hesse-Darmstadt regiment, which comes from Stralsund to Danzig. Order the three Wurzburg battalions in Berlin to go to Warsaw.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19199. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK

Mojaisk, September 11, 1812.

Cousin, I sent you various orders to have all my infantry and cavalry assembled at Smolensk. I think I have not forgotten anything. My intention is that all that remains of the Rhine at Smolensk is the Heudelet division, the Lagrange division (the penguin), the dragoon brigade and 12 cohorts of national guards;

In Danzig, 8 battalions, to know: one of the 3rd of line, one of the 105th, two of the 29th, two of the 113th, two of the No. 6 Regiment of Confederation;

At Pillau and Konigsberg, 2 battalions of march.

If I had forgotten something and left behind some detachments or battalions, put it back in front of me. The nine regiments of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania alone are to hold garrisons in Poland.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19200. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 12, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Viceroy:

"The Emperor does not approve that you did not occupy the town of Zveuignrod yesterday. The King of Naples was at Krymskote, having all the army before him and being able. Go on the road to Moscow as far as you can; it is probable that the army will be at Maly-Viazemka today; advance to where[215]

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the road passes the Moskva, to always turn the left of the enemy.

"The Emperor will be in the vanguard tonight."

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19201. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 12, 1812.

Cousin, write to the viceroy that it is said that the enemy has 18 batteries at twenty-five versts from Moscow, that is to say near Perkhouchkiuo, that it is necessary that he turn all this by the position of Usovo. Tell him also that the enemy has entrenchments on the mountain Sparrows, but that the road that the 4th corps will follow does not lead to this mountain and turns.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19202. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOJAÏSK.

Mojaisk, September 12, 1812.

My Cousin, all that the 3rd, 4th and 1st corps have left on the battlefield to keep it will join the respective corps. The Duke d'Abrantes will carry his headquarters to Mojaisk; he will keep a battalion and 100 horses at the ambulances near the battlefield; a battalion, 100 horses, and two pieces of cannon at the monastery, two leagues behind; a battalion, two pieces of cannon, and 50 horses at Kubiuskoi on the road to Moscow, and the rest here. He will visit the monastery, the battlefield ambulances, and he will do what he can to improve the lot of the wounded soldiers. He will provide an escort for the parts and caissons that the artillery sends back to the rear. He will have the six ovens completed, and will be careful to supply the town with patrols of at least 150 men, which he will send to fetch wheat, flours and fodder.

The small headquarters will leave at noon for a day's walk. The general headquarters will leave tomorrow with the escort of 150 horses, six pieces of cannon and 1,200 men supplied by the Duke d'Abrantes.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[216]

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19203. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, BORISOVKA

Borisovka, September 13, 1812,

Cousin, order the King of Naples to leave tomorrow at eight or nine o'clock. The viceroy is at Bouzava tonight, and goes early to Tutarova, where the road passes the river. The King must communicate with him. Prince Poniatowski arrived at Charapovo, he had to continue his journey and put himself in communication with him; he is ordered to continue his journey tomorrow. Send to Prince Poniatowski where is the King of Naples and where will be the headquarters.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19204. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, BORISOVKA.

Borisovka, September 13, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Viceroy that the King of Naples is at Odintsovo this evening, three leagues from Moscow, that the Emperor will be early in the morning early in the vanguard; that the 4th corps all assembled, recalling all that it would have behind and especially all its artillery, must go early to Tutarova, where we meet the Moskva, and keep in communication with the King of Naples; that the King will return vis-à-vis Fili; it is said that the enemy has cut off Sparrow Hills and another mountain; that the Viceroy will hear news, and will afterwards work on three bridges on the road, so that, if the Emperor deems it suitable, he receives the order to enter Moscow.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19205. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 14, 1812.

My Cousin, it is necessary that you write to General Saint-Germain that the Busses Field Artillery Park is in the district beyond Zernlianoï-Gorod or Ville-de-Terre, next to a small lake, near the Petersburg road; that it is necessary to send a strong party. He must not allow anything to enter the city and have[217]

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continually detachments busy picking up the Russians, who are in large numbers on all sides,

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19206. - TO MARSHAL BESSIERES, DUKE OF ISTRIA, COMMANDING THE CAVALRY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 15, 1812.

My Cousin, order twenty patrols of dragoons, each of 30 men commanded by an officer, and divided in four to occupy the four parts of the city, pick up all the Russians who are there and take them to the Prince of Eckmühl in the village, out of town. Also order ten patrol grenadiers on horseback, who will do the same service in the Kremlin and stay there to tidy up, pick up all the prisoners, and so on. All the rest of the horse grenadiers and hunters will also come to the Kremlin for use in the day.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19207. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 15, 1812.

Cousin, order the Duke of Danzig to go with the old Guard to the Kremlin, where he will be exclusively in charge of the police of this district.

General Durosnel will act as governor of the city. The King of Naples will occupy by Prince Poniatowski and his cavalry from the Kulomna road to the Troitskoi road. The Viceroy will carry his headquarters to the St. Petersburg Barrier and will occupy the road from Troitskoy inclusively. to the road he took.

The Prince of Eckmühl will occupy all the roads from that taken by the Viceroy to that of Prince Poniatowski.

The Viceroy and the King of Naples will advance strong posts on the road to St. Petersburg and on the road taken by the enemy, in order to get news and pick up the stragglers.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[218]

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19208. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow, September 18, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, you write to me in numbers, and I have no number, which puts me very hard, because I do not know if what you write to me is urgent.

I am very much in favor of Prussia being asked 3,000 men to fire either Kolberg and Graudenz or Silesia for the garrison of Memel.

I named Count Tyzenhaus whom you proposed to me to replace Prince Supieha.

We follow the enemy, who reads himself beyond the Volga. We found a huge amount of things in Moscow, which was an extremely beautiful city. Two hundred years Russia will not recover from the loss it makes. It is not an exaggeration to evaluate it at one billion.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19209. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 18, 1812.

My Cousin, all the French who were domiciled in Moscow, men, women and children, and who find themselves without asylum, will be placed in a house near the Kremlin. Three trustees will be appointed to be their leaders and to control them; they will be given rations, He will give jobs to those who will be susceptible, and a subsistence treatment to all others,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19210. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT OF THE RIBOISIERE,
COMMANDING THE ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 18, 1812

General Riboisiere, I wish that the two companies of the sailors of the Guard each have six pieces of 12 and two howitzers, You will take the pieces at the arsenal of Moscow; caissons also exist in the arsenal of Moscow. The horses and the soldiers of the train will be taken among those of the caissons that you wanted[219]

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return. By this means, the reserve of the Guard will be increased by sixteen pieces of cannon. It is also necessary to increase the reserve of Prince Eckmühl with eight guns, including six 12 pieces and two howitzers. If necessary, you would have them served by the two Prussian companies following the old Guard. The Prince of Eckmühl having a corps of five divisions, sixteen pieces of reserve are not sufficient. Make a report to me that it will be known when all the reserve of the Guard will be as considerable as when it left Paris, and when all that has been dismounted in Vilna will be gone. There are 200 small boxes in the arsenal of Moscow, I want them to be employed; it will be used more quickly in bad roads and can be coupled with cognacs. Give me a general report on my artillery and how to repair all losses. My intention is not to lose a single piece, but to keep the whole of my organization, which already is not too strong. Finally, see if it would be possible to establish mills in Moscow to make powder.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Count de la Riboisière.

19211. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 19, 1812.

Cousin, order that all the Russian officers and sub-officers, prisoners of war, who should be at Dauzig, Marienburg, Thorn, or Modlin, should be directed to France without delay; the soldiers alone will remain in the places of the Vistula. You will inform General Lagrange that I do not approve of your decision of the 4th of August, in which you authorized the Russian deserters to enter the depots of the Polish regiments at Danzig; my intention is that these deserters, if they have arrived as deserters and not known prisoners, be directed to France; we must suffer none in the garrison of Danzig. As for the Poles, they may be placed in the regiments of the Grand Duchy and sent to Modlin.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[220]

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19212. - ORDER.

Moscow. September 19, 1821.

The Emperor wants the Governor-General of Moscow (1) to provide M….. (2) with the means of the season and protection necessary to travel with his family and peasants to his land near Voskresensk.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Treviso.

19213. - TO ALEXANDER Ist, EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

Moscow, September 20, 1812.

Sir, having been informed that the brother of the Minister of your Imperial Majesty, Cassel was in Moscow, I had him come and talked to him for some time. I recommended him to go to your Majesty and to let him know my feelings. The beautiful and beautiful city of Moscow no longer exists. Rostoptchine burned him. Four hundred incendiaries were arrested in the act; all declared that they were setting fire by the orders of this governor and the director of the police: they were shot. The fire seems to have finally ceased. Three quarters of the houses are burned, a quarter remains. This conduct is atrocious and aimless. Is it intended to deprive some resources? But these resources were in cellars that fire could not reach. Besides, how can we destroy a city of the most beautiful in the world, and the work of ages to attain such a feeble goal? This is the conduct that has been held since Smolensk, which has put 600,000 families begging. Moscow's pumps had been broken or carried away, some of the arms of the arsenal given to criminals who forced to fire some cannon on the Kremlin to drive them away. Humanity, the interests of your Majesty, and of this great city, wished that it should be entrusted to me in deposit, since the Russian army discovered it: one should leave there administrations, magistrates and civil guards. This is how it was done in Vienna, twice, in Berlin, in Madrid. This is how we ourselves acted in Milan when Souvarof entered. The fires allow the looting, which the soldier indulges in fighting for debris in the flames. If I supposed that such things were done by Your Majesty's orders, I would not write this letter to you; but I hold it impossible that with his

1) Marshal Mortiet. – 2) An unreadable name.[221]

principles, his heart, the correctness of his ideas, he has authorized such excesses, unworthy of a great sovereign and a great nation. In the time that the Moscow pumps were being carried away, one left a hundred and fifty pieces of field cannon, 60,000 new rifles, 1,600,000 infantry cartridges, more than 400 thousand powder, 300 thousand saltpeter, as much sulfur, etc.

I made war on your Majesty without animosity; a note from her, before or after the last battle, would have stopped my march, and I would have liked to be able to sacrifice to her the advantage of entering Moscow. If your Majesty still retains some of your old feelings, it will take a good part in this letter. However, he can only be grateful to have told me what is going on in Moscow.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of His Majesty the Emperor of Russia.

19214. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow, September 21, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I received your letter of September 14, by which you let me know that 930 artillery wagons left from July 22 to September 13, regardless of the 90 boxes that the Imperial Guard would have done leaving, which would make nearly 1,000 wagons.

I would like to have the starting state, by day and by wagons, to know the nature of the wagons and the teams. Walk to the arsenal of Vilna and see how many cannon and caissons are still filled that have not left. When I left Vilna there were, I believe, sixty to eighty pieces and more than two hundred cooks. Also, let me know if the four companies of light artillery of the line and the four companies of foot artillery, which had been left at Vilna, forming the reserve of the Guard, have left. Besides, we have found here 2 millions of cartridges, 300 thousands of powder, 300 thousands of salt and sulfur, which makes us even to make powder, and a large quantity of pieces and balls; so that we have found here the triple of what we spent in battle. This circumstance is extremely happy. These objects do not give you any more worry. We have ammunition enough to deliver four battles like the last, but I take this opportunity to increase my artillery and use[222]

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the pieces taken from the enemy. It is always pleasant to obtain in the country itself an increase of a hundred pieces of cannon.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19215. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 21, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke d'Abrantes that it is advisable to organize his army corps into a single division, and to present the organization to them; that I give orders that all his remaining battalions and detachments, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, join him; let him know if this order is executed punctually, and write to General Baraguey d'Hilliers and the various commanders to recommend the execution of this measure; advise him to organize his artillery; that two new Westphalian regiments have left to join him, which will put in his hands a fine division; that he should also take care that his artillery be supplied and in good condition, since as soon as his body is assembled he will receive the order to join the army. Call on the Württemberg general who commands the corps, to know definitively what this division is reduced to.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19216. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 21, 1812.

Cousin, order General Lahoussaye, commander of the 3rd Cavalry Corps, to go with this 3rd corps to Podolsk, on the road to Tula. The cavalry brigade of Prince Eckmühl will support the 3rd Cavalry Corps; the King of Naples will have this 3rd corps supported by Prince Poniatowski, who will also go to Podolsk. The advance guard will be on Bronnitsy, on the road to Kolomna, if the enemy has left the world on this road; for if he had gone entirely on the road to Toula, it would be necessary for the vanguard to maneuver accordingly.

You will order the Duke of Istria to send today General Colbert with the two regiments of lancers of the Guard for[223]

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support General Girardin on the road to Podolsk. This marshal will also take under his command the 3rd corps of cavalry. The Prince of Eckmühl will place at the disposal of the Duke of Istria the 4th Division commanded by General Friederichs. These troops will form an observation corps that will gather information on the enemy's march and cover the Podolsk road until Prince Poniatowski and the vanguard have returned to the enemy's footsteps.

You will make known to the Prince of Eckmühl that he must occupy with his army corps the suburb of Kaluga, and you will designate him a third of the city of Kaluga and Tula; he must occupy nothing beyond the limit that you will set him; he must also send foraging only in the country between the Tula and Kuluga roads. You will tell the Duke of Elchingen that the enemy is not far enough away for me to allow him to go as far as Bogorodsk, but that I order that his light cavalry be sent there, and that I do not see no objection to the fact that he led a strong party, both infantry and cavalry and artillery, on Bogorodsk, still occupying with his army corps the quarter of the city on the side of Bogorodsk, and between other barracks that are behind the hospital.

Write to the viceroy to assign him a quarter of the city on the side of the roads of St. Petersburg and Dmilrof; you will allow it to be sent to six leagues on the road to St. Petersburg, a vanguard of infantry and cavalry, to take a position until the distance from the enemy is considerable enough for me to see fit to occupy the districts of Kline and Dmitrof. Finally, present me with a plan for the distribution of the whole of the Moscow Government among the different corps d'armée, by giving one, two, or three districts to each, according to his strength. The marshals will organize these districts by holding some troops and will draw from them. Livelihood.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19217, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 21, 1812,

My cousin, order that as soon as the troops of Hesse-Darmstadt, of any battalion whatsoever, have arrived at Smolensk,[224]

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they continue on their way to Moscow. Order Vilna, Smolensk, Vitebsk, Minsk, Mohilef, and all along the line, to send all the isolated men belonging to the corps that are in Moscow, to arm them if we have weapons, and if we do not have to send them without weapons, since we found 60,000 rifles in Moscow. Order Hilliers General Baraguey to demote to Moscow all the slightly wounded men who can walk, since they will be better here and can be armed and used.

Order the Illyrian Regiment to leave Smolensk for Moscow, where he will join his division in the 3rd Corps; give the same order to the 129th regiment. Order that, as soon as the 3rd Corps Regiment of Foot has arrived, I shall be informed of which battalions are the cadres, so that I may decide whether they should be incorporated. Order that the Vistula Regiment which is at Smolensk immediately proceed to Moscow. Order that all the Westphalian battalions which have been left en route from Smolensk join their corps at Mojaisk, as well as all the detachments, both infantry, cavalry, and artillery; they will be replaced on the line of communication by the three battalions of the Vistula. Order that the 8th Westphalian regiment continue on Mojaisk to rejoin his body. Order that all cavalry regiments, as they arrive at Smolensk, continue their route to Moscow. As soon as the two battalions of the 33rd will have arrived, they will join the 4th division of the 1st corps.

Order throughout the army that all detachments of Württemberg that are in the various places be directed to Moscow. Order that the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Infantry Regiments, after having spent a day or two at Smolensk, continue their course on the army, as well as all the battalions and regiments of march. The Smolensk garrison will be formed of the 3rd Battalions of the 4th, 7th and 9th Polish Regiments, and until further order of the Low Saxon Regiment and the Saxon Regiment of Rechten. Let me know the composition of the foreign marching battalion which arrives at Minsk on September 30, so that I know whether it belongs to the troops that are in Moscow or the corps of General Saint-Cyr. Order that the flankers regiment of the Guard rest two days in Smolensk, after which it will leave for Moscow. Recommend to the governor of Lithuania that, under any pretext whatsoever, he should not detain any single man, but that[225]

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they form in armed battalions as much as possible and direct them to Smolensk; from there they will be directed to Moscow.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19218. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA

Moscow, September 23, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, the governor of Minsk announces the passage of an Austrian official who carries the news of a victory won over Tormasof. All rifles, other than French rifles, intended for allies and Poles in Kovno and Vilna, may be distributed to them. The governor tells me that he has what it takes to form the nine Lithuanian regiments, but in these nine regiments Mohilef and Vitebsk are not understood; it would be important to raise soldiers in these two governments; they would be brought to Minsk, and could be incorporated into existing regiments; for it seems that cadres, as officers and non-commissioned officers, are difficult to train. As soon as the 3rd regiment of lancers of the Guard is ready to leave, but for that it must be in very good condition, it can be directed on Smolensk. Write to the governor of Minsk that General Dombrowski is here to deal with all that Hertel could do.

I have just raised in France a conscription of 140,000 men, and in Italy one of 30,000. Only the Duchy of Warsaw does nothing. We must raise as many men as possible to recruit the regiments, who are in great need. Press this rising, so that it takes place promptly. We must also send horses to bring up the cavalry and artillery teams of the Polish corps. For this purpose, write to the Ambassador, the Minister of War of the Grand Duchy, and Saxony. At the same time, write in Saxony that conscripts on foot and on horseback and artillery teams should be sent to recruit the Saxon corps. Write for the same object in all courts of the Rhine Confederation. The circumstances of the Moskva battle and the entrance to Moscow must not weaken the zeal nor put the allies to sleep. By letting them know about the big lifts I'm doing everywhere, you'll make them feel the importance of completing their bodies.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[226]

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19219. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LA RIBOISIÈRE,
COMMANDER ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 23, 1812.

General Comte la Riboisière, it is necessary to hold at the disposal of the governor of Lithuania the so-called insurrection rifles for arming the regiments of the duchy.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Count de la Riboisière.

19220. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 23, 1812.

Cousin, write at once to Smolensk, to General Baraguey d'Hilliers, and to the Duke d'Abrantes to inform them that the cavalry, the infantry, and the artillery which compose each convoy must march together, bivouac in battalion square around the convoy, and not to separate under any pretext whatsoever; that the commander of the convoy must bivouac in the middle; that any commander who fails to comply with these provisions would be punished as negligent and guilty of the loss of the convoy. Reiterate the orders to Smolensk so that no convoy leaves if it is not commanded by a superior officer and escorted by 1,500 men, infantry and cavalry (not including in this number the soldiers of the train, either of the artillery, either engineers or military crews); that I see with difficulty that we have sent out convoys that did not have enough strength to escort them. Make, as a result of what I have just prescribed, a day's order. In the manner in which the convoys must bivouac, send it to the commanders of the 5th and 6th convoys. Independently of this order of the day, put before me the terms of the ordinances on the convoys and their escorts; it seems to me that they are very precise as to the manner in which the convoys must keep themselves; in this case, these provisions should be reprinted for display by all the local commanders, from Rovno to here.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[227]

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19221. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 23, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Treviso that, far from bringing Claparede's division back, it is necessary that all the detachments he still has in Moscow leave for the vanguard,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19222, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 23, 1812,

Write to the governor of Minsk that General Dombrowski must repel Hertel if he advances. To write to General Dombrowski and the Duke of Bellune that General Dombrowski should advance only so long as General Hertel goes to Moscow and evacuate his position (1).

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19223. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow, September 24, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I receive your letter of the 18th. Concert with the Government's commission what should be done in the governments of Mohilef and Vitebsk; we must raise troops there. Perhaps it would be advisable to unite these two governments with Lithuania. Have the work done, and send it to the governors of Mohilef and Vitebsk, who will hasten to ask the men to do what is convenient.

A foreigner Battalion of march from Thorn was ordered to go to Minsk; it's by mistake. This battalion is composed of 8 or 900 Swiss and 250 Illyrians. It is necessary to keep him in Vilna, where he will rest; after which we will ensure his subsistence and we will direct the 900 Swiss on Vidzy, where they will be sent to Marshal Saint-Cyr. The 350 Illyrians will be directed to Smolensk.

Hold your hand so that all the battalions that belong to the 2nd corps and the Bavarians are directed to Polotsk. It was ordered to conduct on Minsk the four half-brigades of

1) This order is in the hands of the Emperor.[228]

which formed the Lagrange division and come from Konigsberg. These demi-brigades have detachments belonging to the 2nd corps, which is under the orders of Marshal Saint-Cyr. It is necessary to retain these detachments at Vilna, and to form a demi-brigade of march, which will be directed straight to Polotsk. The governor-general must make this observation especially, and be careful not to direct on Minsk or Smolensk what belongs to the 2nd corps.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19224. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA

Moscow, September 24, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, on the 8th, from Paris, the minister of war sent out forty portable mills, each weighing 18 livres and able to grind 30 or 40 pounds of flour per hour. Let me know when these mills will pass to Vilna, and take care to warn everywhere so that they arrive promptly in Moscow. This minister announces to me that he is leaving 200 other mills on September 15 and another 200 on the 20th. On the last shipment, you could retain one of these mills for model, to make some make Vilna. This is very important. I intend to give one of these mills to each company of the army.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassauo.

19225. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 24, 1812.

Cousin, accuse General Saint-Sulpice of the reception of his letter, let him know that I attach great importance (and that I am referring to him for that) to keep the road of Mojaisk to Moscow free; it must be confined to the place where it is, which is a central point, and put itself in communication with the Duke of Abrantes, who is at Mojaisk; that I recommend to him, when the couriers pass, to send patrols to protect them; that Colonel Letort will return under his orders, and that I let him master to keep him in echelons in the tie which he will judge most suitable; that the occupation of Disna will probably remove the enemy. Recommend to him especially to ensure that there are patrols[229]

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to protect the mails. It would be necessary for him to know if there are still Cossacks, to pursue them. I suppose he will have sent 2 or 300 men to the place where the detachment belonging to General Lanusse was abducted a few days ago; if he has not done it, let him do it. Colonel Letort will leave this evening or tomorrow morning; it will always be a patrol on the road.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original. Deposit of the war.

19226. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow. September 25, 1812.

My Cousin, it is necessary to regulate the service of Moscow town. There are fifty barriers: putting 10 men per barrier would make 500 men. The town is divided into twenty quarters; I believe that on this number some are totally destroyed. At least one shift of 20 men per ward is required; There are some quarters where 10 men will be enough, but there are others where it will take 40; that would make 400 men; in addition, there should be about 500 men in reserve on various points; I am therefore justified in thinking that with 1,500 men on duty we would have enough. Make me the distribution of this service between the young Guard, the Roguet division, the Viceroy, the Duke of Elchingen, and the Prince of Eckmühl. The old Guard, which will do no other service than that of the Kremlin, will not be included in the distribution. Give me a job that does not employ more than 1,200 men and that makes me know what each corps will provide. By this means, the young Guard will rest and the service of the place will be done.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19227. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 25, 1812.

Cousin, I have already answered the demand of the payer that the expenses made in the governments of Moscow and Smolensk must be paid in paper rubles; order the payor to begin paying the balance in this currency. Staff office expenses and any expenses of any kind[230]

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these two governments must be paid the same in rubles. The payer may continue to give treasury notes to those who want to send their money to France.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19228. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 25, 1812.

Cousin, the cavalry depot is very bad at Mojaisk, where there are already many wounded; I think it would be proper to transport this depot to Rouza, where the viceroy has a garrison; it should also establish a hospital to put a portion of the wounded in Mojaisk. All the cavalrymen who are out of service here may also be sent to Rouzu, but care will be taken to give them rifles and carbines so that they may resist the peasants and the men. Cossacks. All the men of the Mojaisk depot will also be armed with rifles and will receive cartridges; men of light cavalry will have their carabiners. By this means there will be at Rouza a force of 2 to 3,000 men, which will have to be organized in battalions of 4 companies, so that the service can be made in order, and this force can be used on foot. It would require a smart brigadier general, who served in the cavalry, to entrust him with this organization, and to put order in this depot.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19229. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 26, 1812, five o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, order the Viceroy to send one of his three infantry divisions with his complete artillery to take up position four leagues from Moscow, on the road to Smolensk, at the place where General Guyot and his brigade will be light cavalry. This division must be there early, and for this purpose make it leave at the break of day.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[231]

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19230. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow, September 28, 1812.

Mr. Duke of Bassano, I receive your letters of September 22nd.

I do not see any news of Warsaw, little of Vienna, and none of Constantinople. Nor do I see anything of America; however, it is urgent to do something on this side.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19231. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW

Moscow, September 28, 1812.

Cousin, order General Saint-Sulpice to send back to Moscow all the infantry he has with him. The Bourcier division that is there is enough.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19232. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Moscow, September 28, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, I think that the best man to command the army of Portugal is Major General Reille. If no event has since occurred, I think you will do well to give him command of the army.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war,

19233. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, September 29, 1812.

Cousin, order the Duke of Istria to go with his Corps of observation behind the King of Naples, as he wishes, and to occupy himself without delay in destroying the entrenched camp of the enemy. Recommend that this demolition be leaked so that there are no traces left.

Send the King of Naples the order you give to the Duke of Istria; let him know that it is better to continue to threaten the enemy[232]

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to turn it by its right flank than by its left flank; that if it had entered into my plans to make a movement, and that the army had found where the King is, the enemy was lost; that he must therefore be threatened to turn his right flank, however with the necessary caution and precaution.

Order General Chasseloup to send a company of sappers to the entrenched camp of the enemy to assist in the demolition. As it is a position which the enemy must have thought good, let it be lifted by the engineers geographers, so that if he took it a second time we know it.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19234. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA

Moscow. September 29, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I receive your letter of the 23rd. Keep me well informed of the execution of my orders for the movements of troops which I have ordered at Berlin and Danzig.

I have the greatest need of 14,000 horsepower. I ordered General Bourcier to go to Vilna. I put at his disposal 4 million in silver, giving him carte blanche to direct everything. Purchases must be made in Hanover, Berlin, Elbing, Warsaw and Lithuania, if possible. I ordered that General Bourcier be sent by special courier to go first to Berlin, and thence to Vilna; but before he arrives, try to prepare him for work. In the province of Mohilef, there are immensely rich Jews: have the principal called and see if they can not process for 3 to 4,000 horses, deliverable to Vilna or Moililef, and pay cash.

The colonel of the 3rd regiment of lancers of the Guard procured, it seems, 1,200 horses; write to him to have it set in motion as soon as he has available them, and to complete his regiment at once with 1,200 men, horses, and harness. I believe he has received money and there must be no objection.

General Hogendorp writes to me that the Tartars are impatient to come under my flag; it is necessary for all that to go forward. One can boldly create a regiment, if we have 1,000 men and 1,000 horses. In general, any way to have men of[233]

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cavalry is extremely valuable; nothing must be savings. Also urge the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and Warsaw to provide men and horses for the Polish Light Horse regiment of my Guard, commanded by Krusinski. I would like to bring this regiment to 1,500 men, and yet is always weak. What is this little nobility doing? I wrote to you yesterday for you to stir up the government of the Duchy of Warsaw and to have it do something to raise its cavalry and recruit its army. I also recommended you to write to all the allies to send recruits and horses back. The Prussian regiments here are reduced to nothing. Who prevents Prussia from completing them? The same is true of Saxon regiments. Make representations on this, and instruct my ministers to hold conferences and to deal with them constantly.

I do not need to tell you to press the formation of the nine regiments. The country must see that the formation of these regiments depends on its tranquility. If they were more zealous, they would now have about 8,000 men at Drissa's side, which would prevent the Cossacks from making excursions; they would have as much on the side of Bobrouisk and as much on the side of Piusk, which would have tranquillized the whole Grand Duchy of Lithuania.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

19235. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow. September 30, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, I send you the treaty between Russia and the Porte, which has been found here in the Moscow papers. It seems that you have not yet received it from Constantinople, for you did not send it to me.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19236. - TO M. BARBIER, LIBRARY OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

Moscow. September 30, 1812.

Sir, His Majesty thinks that you are not sending him the good works that appear. He desires that you send him more often the books and new works, taking advantage either of the courier of the trunk, or of the departure of the auditors,[234]

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that takes place every day, or opportunities that you might have.

By order of the Emperor,

The grand marshal of the palace, Duke DE FRIOUL

Excerpt from the original comm. by Mr. Louis Barbier.

19237. - NOTES.

Moscow, ... 1812. (1)

1st) The enemy is on the road to Kief, his goal is obvious; he is waiting for reinforcements from the Moldavian army. To walk to him is to act in the direction of his assistance, and to find himself without points. I support during the cantonments of winter, having black right and left in the air, while the enemy would find himself his flanks and insured rear. Moscow, finding herself abandoned by her inhabitants and burned, no longer enters into any consideration for us; this city can not contain the wounded and our sick; the resources which are there once exhausted, wax can not furnish others; finally, it offers no means of organizing the country.

2nd) Any operation on Kaluga is reasonable only if it is intended to have arrived in that city on Smolensk.

3rd) If the army retreats to Smolensk, is it his duty to fetch the enemy, and to expose himself to losing, in a march which looks like a retreat, a few thousand men? in front of a army knowing his country well, having many secret agents and a large light cavalry? Although the French army is victorious, the movement it would make would be such, that it would be inferior, since a troop of rearguard loses men every day, while an avant-garde acquires And finally the rear guard is destined to abandon the battlefield every day, losing its wounded, its stragglers and its marauders.

4th) To these considerations it must be added that it is probable that the enemy, having strengthened some good position and having already received the head of his reinforcements, may dispute the ground and give 3,000 to 4,000 wounded; it would look like a defeat. A retrograde movement of a hundred leagues, with wounds and events which the enemy would paint at his pleasure, would give him the advantage in public opinion, though beaten.

5th) Wanting to fall back to spend their winter quarters in

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1) These notes do not bear a date; it is presumed that they were dictated by the Emperor in the first days of October.[235]

Poland, is it better to move directly to the road on which we have come? We would not have the enemy on us; the road is well known, and it is shorter by five marches; we can go as fast as we want; we can even receive halfway our convoys from Smolensk. The army would easily carry fifteen days' worth of flour, and they would arrive at Smolensk without being obliged to maraud. One might even stop at Viazma as long as one would like; there one would find food and forage, extending from right to left.

We are victorious, we are organized, and if we had business and wounded, we would be in the position we were in coming, with respect to the wounded who had the vanguard. In truth, one can foresee embarrassment for fodder; but it would be obtained at two or three leagues; it would not be a difficulty of the first order.

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1. There is no doubt that if Smolensk and Vitebsk were countries like Konigsberg and Elbing, the wisest project would be that which we have just described above, going to a beautiful country. to spend his winter quarters and rebuild the army.

2. In the situation above, it could not be concealed, however, that the war would drag on; but it would turn much longer towards the bad countries, such as Smolensk and Vitebsk, which offer so few resources and where one would be so poorly established to spend eight months in winter quarters.

WHAT IT SHOULD DO.

1st) What purpose do we have to fulfill? 1st to place the Emperor as near as possible to France, and to give to the Empire the confidence that the Emperor is in the midst of a friendly people during his winter quarters, 2nd to canton the army in a friendly country bring it closer to its clothing and equipment resources; 3rd to put himself in a position which supports the negotiations for peace which the Emperor has caused by threatening St. Petersburg; 4th to support the honor of the arms at the height where this glorious campaign elevated it.

2nd) Without contradiction, a maneuver that meets the four conditions above would be perfect.

This maneuver would be as follows:

The Duke of Bellune, with his reinforced corps of four Saxon battalions, two Westphalian battalions, two or three battalions of Illyria, two battalions of the 129th Infantry Regiment, which[236]

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must approach this army corps with a force of 40,000 men, would leave Smolensk the first day of the operation to focus on Velijie and Velikie-Louki, where he could arrive on the eighth or ninth day: Velikié-Louki , the Duke of Belluno would take his line of operations on Polotsk and Vitebsk. Marshal St. Cyr, starting from his position at Polotsk, would join him in six days march.

The Marshal Duke of Taranto would send him from the environs of Dinabourg an infantry brigade to join him. The Marshal Duke of Bellune, like the oldest, would command all these troops assembled at Velikie-Louki, where on the tenth day after the first expedition was set in motion, an army of 70,000 men would be assembled. From Velikie-Louki, the army of the Duke de Bellune would draw his provisions from Polotsk and Vitebsk.

The day when the Marshal Duke of Belluno began his movement, the Emperor with the army would leave Moscow to march on Velije, passing through Voskresensk, Volokolamsk, Zubtzof, Bieloi, to reach Velije, the head of the army the tenth day of walking, and the tail the thirteenth or the fourteenth. From Velije, the army would also draw supplies from Vitebsk and Polotsk. Thus, while the Duke of Bellune would threaten St Petersburg with his position of Velikie-Louki, the army would be behind him on the Dvina; the 3rd corps of the army and the corps of the Duke d'Abrantes, forming at least 15,000 men, would be carried from Moscow and Mojaisk on Smolensk by Viazma.

The infantry and cavalry marching regiments which are marching to join the army would march on Vitebsk and Velije, to meet with the army and to incorporate itself there at its arrival. The Emperor, with his guard on horseback, his young and old guard on foot, would march in front, so as to be able to go to the Duke de Bellune if, contrary to all expectation, this assistance was necessary to him. Finally, on the twelfth day of the operation, that is to say, the movement of the army, the position would be as follows:

The Marshal Duke of Bellune, with Marshal St. Cyr and a brigade of the Duke of Taranto, forming a corps of 60 to 70,000 men, would be at Velikie-Louki, having an advanced guard at several steps from him, on the road to Saint Petersburg.

The Emperor, with the Guard and the Viceroy's corps, forming 40,000 men, would be at Velije.

The King of Naples, with his troops and the corps of Prince Eckmühl, would form a sort of rearguard or observation corps three days back, on the direction of Bieloi,[237]

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The enemy army could not enter Moscow until the sixth day of the operation, and already General Wittgenstein would be retired; the Duke de Bellune would have passed the Dvina and threatened St. Petersburg.

The enemy army, arrived in Moscow six days after our departure, would follow our movement to fight at Velije, and then the King of Naples, the Prince of Eckmühl, the Marshal Duke of Elchingen would have joined us, while the relief that the enemy expects from Moldova would not have joined him and would be lost on the highways. He would arrive on us with very inferior forces, which would diminish every day, while ours would increase.

The Duke of Bellune, five days after his arrival at Velikie-Louki, reinforced with the corps which would march with the Emperor, could, if it were necessary, go to Novgorod.

St. Petersburg thus threatened, we must believe that the enemy will make peace, and if the circumstances of the enemy's movements did not advance, we would remain at Velikie-Louki.

According to the minute. Deposit of the war.

19238. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow. October 1st, 1812.

Cousin, give the following orders for the armaments and fortifications of the Kremlin:

Armament, - The first twelve pieces of cannon to be placed in the Kremlin will be placed in today's day and tomorrow's in the following locations: one at Tower No. II, two at Tower No. IV, one to Tower No. VIII, which will arm the side of the river, which is 350 yards long; one to Tower No. I, two to Tower No. XVI, one to Tower No. XIV, which will arm the opposite side, which has 420 toises.

The other side of the trapeze is nearly 500 toises; two rooms will be placed at the tower n° XII, a room at the tower n° XI and a room at the tower n° IX.

These twelve pieces, howitzers, pieces of 12 and pieces of 3, will be in the case of giving fire all around the enclosure and flank it entirely.

Eighteen more pieces will be destined to complete the arming of the Kremlin. The general of artillery will make known the places where it will be necessary to place them.

Fortifications. - The most important things to do in the Kremlin are:[238]

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1st) Demolish the building which is leaning between Tower No. I and Tower No. II;

2nd) Open four of the five doors and surround them with a drum, so that we can use these four doors to open and go out, and at the same time these doors are sheltered from to be depressed by cannon fire, by means of palisades and earthworks to be placed in front of them;

3rd) Cut several walls in the interior, so that we can go around quickly,

4th) To restore glasses, H, K, and L, in the form of spectacles, by attaching them to the wall, and the well-palisading, so that a great deal of artillery can be placed there;

5th) To complete the moat and establish some species of covered roads and small glacis, on the side of the enclosure, between the towers XI and VIII, at the places which appear the weakest part of the place;

6th) Demolish the buildings around the Kremlin, especially those between Tower No. XIV and Tower No. VIII, and especially a mosque with several spires.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19239.- TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 2, 1812.

My Son, you have left at the abbey behind Mojaisk two howitzers of 5 inches 6 lines. I do not know why you weaken your artillery. Take the horses of the officers who should not have them, and take all your artillery with you. Testify my discontent to the general. .... of what he left behind; this is contrary to military honor: we must leave everything except his cannons. You must advise by means of replenishing these batteries. I also note with difficulty that his corps is the one that leaves the most horses behind; there are 119 wagons that are unattached in Moscow; he must take steps to harness them.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19240. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow, October 3, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I received your letters of September 25th.[239]

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We have nothing new here; the enemy is in the direction of Kaluga. We are trying to restore some order in the city.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19241. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNT DECRES, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Moscow, October 3, 1812.

Mr. Decrès, I have thought fit to grant the retirement to the State Councilor Malouet, you will receive the decree and you will notify him. You will also insinuate to him that my intention is that in a fortnight he has chosen his domicile at forty leagues from Paris. You will not let him know that I am unhappy to see that, after having co-operated in the ruin of the old monarchy, he continues, at his age, by misconduct and madness of mind, to mingle again with intrigues which can not to have no result, and which only show that men are incorrigible. How a man who has lived so long with the English, and to whom I must suppose very extensive relations in this country, instead of recognizing all the benefits I have filled him, to take lesson from all that he has seen for thirty years, instead of walking right, mingling with practices and pursuits that do not look at him? It is useless for him to write to me, but it is indispensable that he move away from Paris.

NAPOLEON

According to the original comm. by Madame la Duchesse Decres.

19242. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LA RIBOISIÈRE, COMMANDER ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 3, 1812.

Comte la Riboisière, I was visiting today the fireworks; I found little activity and little order. All the information that has been made known that the enemy had 100,000 balls in this park, and it is believed that he threw them into the pond, which, being a pond, is easy to dry. It is therefore necessary that one works with activity to make a small ditch necessary for that and that one re-reads these cast irons. For the last fifteen days we have been here, only ten rounds have been fired. I wish that from the day after tomorrow you have my day at this workshop to make 6,000 guns a day, which will be stored in the Kremlin as and when they are made.[240]

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Independently of a supply and a half that must be hitched to the army corps, it is necessary to have in stock a half-horse drawn supply.

I was surprised to find no senior officer in the park. I saw 200 small Russian caissons; I want to know if you intend to use it or not. In the case where these caissons would not be used for artillery, they could be used for military transports. Prince Poniatowski complains of having 100 caissons too, having more supplies than he needs. I wish to know how many pieces he has and how much supplies he has: it seems that he would like to be deprived of a hundred full caissons.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Count de la Riboisière.

19243. - TO THE GENERAL COUNTY OF THE RIBOISIÈRE, COMMANDER ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow; October 3, 1812,

Count la Riboisière, I have read your states of artillery attentively. I have not understood, in the state No. 5, why you carry twice, in depot for the army corps, to the abbey, 4 rooms, and in the parts, in the abbey, 24 rooms. Are these 24 pieces at the abbey? Why are they here? If the enemy seized the abbey, he would take 28 pieces of cannon? It results from the state No. 1 that the French artillery of the 1st, 3rd and 4th corps, the reserves of cavalry and the Guard would be of 524 pieces, and of the state n ° 5 that, of this number, it n There are only 331 existing; that there are 28 at the abbey, 47 en route with convoys and 8 in Moscow, which would make 414 pieces of cannon. I want to have the details of the 28 pieces that are in the abbey, to know which corps they belong to, if they have hitches and caissons, and to have the same information on the 8 pieces that are in Moscow and the 47 pieces that are with the convoys; to finally know when these 83 pieces will arrive.

It results from state No. 2 that the Guard has 113 pieces of cannon; the first corps 86, the third corps 33, the fourth corps 70, the cavalry reserves 79; total, 381 pieces.

Why, however, do you wear only 331 in state No. 5? Thus the Guard should have 208 pieces, it has 113, it misses 95; there would be no 8, 3rd corps 11, 4th corps 18, cavalry reserves 11, which would bring to 48 the shortfall in the number of pieces that the 3rd and 4th Corps and[241]

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cavalry had to battle, and these corps did not obtain any increase. The 3rd corps, which was to have 200 caissons, the 4th corps, which was to have 390, the reserves of cavalry, which had to have 310, have, namely: the 3rd corps that 139 caissons, the 4th corps 310, and the reserves of cavalry 266, which makes 715 caissons instead of 900: it would therefore miss 185 caissons to these three corps, which have received no increase.

By state No. 2, I see that there are 46 pieces of 12 in the army that should have 138 caissons, to have a complete supply and that have only 113, so it lacks 25 caissons; that there are 201 guns of 6, which should have 402 caissons and which have only 312, which makes a deficit of 90 caissons; that there are 10 howitzers of 6 inches 4 lines which should have 30 caissons and which have only 24; that there are 92 howitzers of 5 inches 6 lines which should have 181, caissons and which have only 172; that, to have the complete supply of 349 pieces, it would miss 133 caissons. Thus, instead of having in Moscow a double supply, namely: one and a half hitched with the army corps and a half in reserve, I do not even have a supply.

In state n° 5 we do not see if the 194 caissons which are in Moscow to the depots of the corps of army are full or empty. These states do not seem so clear to me as I would like. I would like you to try to draw me up to a state which made me acquainted, 1st the quantity of harnessed pieces which are with each corps, 2nd the quantity of harnessed caissons which are with each body, 3rd the number of pieces, and unattached caissons which are at I abbey, 4th the quantity of munitions without caissons, with the indication of the places where they are, so that I see, if I had to walk to the enemy, the number of pieces that I would have in battery, the quantity of ammunition that I would have to consume, and finally what I would have in Moscow to replace them. The lack of knowledge of the situation of my artillery has a great influence on current operations. I do not have a hitched supply, I can not be satisfied to see so little activity in the garment workshops.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by M. Comte de la Riboisiere.

19244. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW,

Moscow. October 4, 1812.

My Cousin, the Bade battalion coming to Vitebsk and[242]

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to reach Smolensk will be part of the 26th division and will join the troops of Baden.

The 28th division will be composed of three brigades, namely: 1st brigade, 6 battalions of the 4th, 7th and 9th Polish regiments; 2nd Brigade, 4 Saxon battalions of Low and Rechten; 3rd brigade, 2 battalions of the 8th Westphalian regiment and 2 battalions of Hesse-Durmstadt which will arrive at Smolensk, which will bring that division to 14 battalions.

By this means, the 9th corps will be composed of three divisions, the 1st of 44 battalions, the 2nd of 14 battalions, the 3rd of 14 battalions; total, 44 battalions. There must be three brigade generals per division.

Let me know the composition of the artillery of these divisions, which, independently of the regimental pieces, must have: the 12th division, a battery of artillery on foot and a horse; the 26th Division, 14 pieces of artillery of Berg and of Baden, and the 28th division, independently of the Polish artillery, 14 pieces on foot and on horseback. It would be necessary to organize this reserve corps one or two batteries of pieces of 12.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19245. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 4, 1812.

Cousin, order General Marchand to leave, five o'clock in the morning, with a thousand men of the 3rd corps, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, to go to the Moskva; to build a good redoubt and to cut off a house as an observation post, under the orders of a smart and firm captain, who can report every day what is going on. He may stay there until the post is in a state of defense and is supplied for several days. It will be necessary for cavalry patrols to go frequently so far.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19246. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Moscow, October 5, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, I asked two hundred surgeons I guess the Minister of War Administration put them[243]

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on the way. Make sure they arrive, because they are of great necessity here.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19247. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, A. PARIS.

Moscow, October 5, 1812.

The Duke de Feltre, by the last arrangements made this year, the garrison of the vessels must be provided by the navy. In the levy that I ordered for the navy, I accordingly assigned 6,000 men to the destination: the navy could therefore make most of the garrison companies it has, which would provide a relief of 6,000 soldiers who would not be indifferent. Discuss this with the Minister of the Navy, in order to see to form two elite columns, which would be directed to the Grand Army to replace the cadres; for there is a great economy in employing men made in a war so far away.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19218. - TO GENERAL CLARK, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Moscow, October 5, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, I have four foreign German regiments: two are in Italy and are useful there; two, I believe, are in Holland. If these regiments were well composed and could be relied on, they could be brought and prepared in the winter so that in February they could set out for Poland. Give me a report on that. I hear many good things from Holland; one should only be careful not to leave any Russian there, unless he was born in Poland. These troops, today, are useless in Holland, since the cohorts are sufficient for the guard of the interior.

It would be necessary that these regiments were well dressed, that the number of the officers was completed, and, then, that one took some precautions to make them cross Germany. But I will let you know my intentions later and when I have received your report.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy, Depot of War.[244]

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19249. - NOTE
DICTATED BY EMPEROR TO PRINCE EUGENE.

Moscow, October 5, 1812,

The Grenier division, which will meet on 1 November in Verona, will be composed of three brigades, namely: two French brigades and one Italian brigade.

1st brigade: four battalions of the 22nd light, two battalions of the 14th light;

2nd brigade: four battalions of the 112th line, two battalions of the 6th line;

3rd brigade: four battalions of the 5th regiment of Italian line, a battalion of the 1st of the line, a battalion of the 2nd light Italian.

Each regiment will have its regimental artillery; for those who do not have the artillery of the corps which remain in Italy.

Each French battalion will be increased to 900 men and each Italian battalion to 1,000 men; in this way, it is supposed that they will arrive on the Oder in full of 840. But, to carry the French battalions to 900 men, it would be necessary to withdraw from the five French depots which are in Italy the number of men necessary to complete the battalions of the 6th and 112th lines, and, as there is no light infantry in Italy, we will take all that will be available in the 3rd light depot, which is in Parma, and even in the battalion the 8th light, which is in Illyria, if it is not too far. Finally, if necessary, we would leave a battalion cadre of the 22nd light.

The Italian battalions will be completed to 1,000 men by means of the deposits of the other corps that exist in the kingdom.

An Italian cavalry regiment, the 4th of chasseurs, completed with 1,000 horses, will be attached to this division.

Independently of the regimental artillery, there will be three artillery batteries, namely: a French artillery battery, an Italian battery, an Italian horse; total, twenty-two pieces, howitzers or pieces of 6, and eight or ten pieces of 3; which will make thirty to thirty-two guns. The number of infantry caissons required will be added.

We will attach to this division a company of Italian sappers with its tools, and a company of the Navy of Venice, completed to 120 men.

The 9th French Transport Battalion will be organized in the depot[245]

a company to harness 100 wagons to the Comtoise, and it will be organized like this in the Italian transport depots.

The Minister of War of the Empire will send models of wagons to the Comtoise to build them, either in Verona or Venice, unless he thinks it more convenient to have the wagons built in Nuremberg, and even buy horses if they do not exist at transport depots.

The divisions of artillery, with the exception of the regimental one, will be able to take their horses off their feet, and take their equipment only at Glogau, where the Minister of War will take care to have him there.

In this division, there will be two surgeons per battalion and one ambulance per brigade.

It will be given four portable mills per battalion and twelve mills in reserve division. A well-made model will be sent on the spot by the Empire's Minister of War in Verona and Venice, for it to be built.

The intention of the Emperor is that this division, which may be considered as a corps d'armee, be set in motion, from Verona, so as to pass the Brenner in the early days of December. This corps would march in brigades, and be directed to Nuremberg, Bamberg, and Augsburg for further instructions.

All that would be wanting in the whole organization of this corps, whether in material or personnel, as surgeons, soldiers of the train, etc., would, by the minister's care, be completed in Bavaria or Silesia, where it is probable that this division will pass several months of winter.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19250. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 5, 1812.

Cousin, the memory of the Intendant General seems to me wrong; I can hardly believe that it takes forty-five days to evacuate the wounded who are at Mojaisk, the convent, and Ghjatsk; for I notice that in these forty-five days, by doing nothing, part will heal, part will die; there would be only the surplus to be evacuated, and experience proves that, three months after a battle, there is not left one-sixth of the wounded; thus, counting on 6,000, it would remain only three months after 1,000 to carry. My intention is to stay in control of my line of operation and evacuate[246]

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my wounded. You will prescribe to distinguish in two classes those who are at the convent and Mojaisk: first those who can heal in a month and who will evacuate themselves; those whose surgeons do not augur well and who may also be left in the hospital, since the transport would only worsen their situation; finally those who, needing two or three months to recover, are, however, likely to be evacuated without inconvenience, or who, being amputated, can not walk, and must be evacuated to Smolensk. My intention is not that the few carts I have here, which go up to 800 or 900 wagons, be sent to the rear. I have already consented that everything that comes from Smolensk should be used for evacuations, as well as all the wagons that will be available. You will order that the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 8th corps send 200 cars to compete in this operation, namely: the 1st corps, 60 wagons; 3rd, .40; the 4th, 60; the 8th, 40. All those existing at the Mojnisk Cavalry Repository will also be taken.

The wagons that the 1st and the 3rd corps must supply will leave tomorrow and the day after tomorrow: they will be laden with flour, brandy, wine, medicines, which will be sent to Mojaisk and especially to the convent. General Ornano will escort them. Arrange for these convoys to leave in good order and bring to these hospitals the help they need so much. The evacuation will begin by the officers.

Testify my discontent to the officer who is at Mojaisk, the commissioners of wars and agents of the administration who are at the convent, and who never write to make known the situation of their hospitals. Finally send an officer and an agent of the administration to know exactly the number of patients in Mojaisk, the convent, and to Viazma, so that in all circumstances I can know the sacrifice that would be there if the operations led to the abandonment of these establishments.

The states must distinguish the sick from officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19251. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 6, 1812.

My Cousin, having provided that the Duke d'Abrantes and General Baragney d'Hilliers have the men necessary to be masters[247]

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of the country all around, my intention is that the effects ensue. You will charge, under his responsibility, the Duke d'Abrantes to evacuate all the wounded on Viazma, and General Baraguey d'Hilliers to evacuate them from Viazma on Smolensk. To this end, the Duke d'Abrantes and General Baraguey Hilliers will beat the country ten leagues round, and collect a good number of wagons to provide evacuations. It will also be possible to use the military transports which will reach Mojaisk, and which would not be charged with effects of clothing and hospitals, but only with flours. The flours will be used for hospital and stage service, and the carriages will make a trip to help the evacuation of Mojaisk, Bouza and the abbey to Viazma. Thus, the orders to restrain the cars of the military crews must be given only to the Duke of Abrantes and the Adjutant Commander Simonin, who commands the abbey. These will use the wagons as far as Viazma, and then the wagons will come back empty from Viazma to Moscow. Make known to the intendant these dispositions which modify the orders he has given. Finally, something that happens, my intention is that within eight days there will not be a wounded person in Rouzu, the abbey, Mojaisk and Ghjatsk; Let the generals know that this is of utmost importance.

NAPOLEON

From the original Deposit of the war.

19252. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 6, 1812.

My Cousin, the Duke de Treviso, asks for food for the police; he will ask for the foundlings; he will ask for the Russians who are at the hospitals; he will ask for the sick inhabitants, etc .; all these demands are very legitimate, but no one is bound to the impossible. It is necessary that the municipality should form a Russian company, which will make detachments to the villages, and bring food to them by paying them; the intendant will give the necessary money out of the funds that I put at his disposal. A store will be formed here in the municipality, which will be destined for the city and supplied as it has just been said. This company may be called police company; and if it succeeds, we can train three or four similar ones, who will go around and bring us here, by paying, all that is necessary.[248]

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to the inhabitants and especially to the hospitals. This is the only way to suffice for everything; speak to Monsieur Lesseps (1), and let no moment be lost.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19253. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow. October 6, 1812.

Cousin, let the Duke of Elchingen know that I approve that he should reunite his whole corps at Bogorodsk, that he should organize this district perfectly; that he tries to raise some horses for his light cavalry; that there is a regiment of march to guard the Kremlin; that if he had horses, men would be sent to him with their saddles to ride them; that he must engage the locals to come to the market in Moscow; that everything will be paid in cash; they bring corn, fodder and food; that he must avoid any skirmish, not to suffer that the troops go to the raiding, since it can be brought by the peasants.

You will order him to leave a garrison, with a superior officer, at the convent of Moscow, to form the depot of his army corps; that he directs flour and biscuit on this convent, so that when his corps returns to Moscon, he finds food there for six months. He must be able to evacuate in twenty-four hours without losing anything; that he must put in the convent his useless men, his convoys, his stores of provisions; that today he has 80,000 biscuit rations he must feel the importance of not consuming them; that it is therefore necessary that he should direct them to his convent, which will be his chief town.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19254. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow. October 6, 1812.

Cousin, send one of your aides-de-camp to Mojaisk to-morrow, and order the Duke d'Abrantes and the officer-in-charge of Mojaisk to meet with him to form a commission and visit the hospitals of that city, abbey and surroundings,

1) Prefect of Moscow.[249]

They will be accompanied by the highest health officer in rank, and will classify all patients under three titles: 1st) those who can walk or who, wounded slightly, will be able to recover in a fortnight; 2nd), those who will be cured only in two or three months; 3rd) those who are amputated and unable to serve, and those who die from their wounds.

We will distinguish in this state, which will be made by corps and nominative, officers and soldiers. As it may take several days to train, your aide-de-camp will write to you daily by the courier. From there, he will go to Rouza to do the same operation with the commander; he will carry the evacuation orders and the authorization to stop the carriages to the Duke d'Abrantès and to Adjutant-Major Simonin.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19255, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 6, 1812,

Cousin, send the Duke of Bassano the Warsaw letter of the 25th of September, informing him how little the Government of the Grand Duchy has done, and the necessity which stimulates it.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19256. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW,

Moscow, October 6, 1812,

My cousin, let General Ornano know that his correspondence is unsatisfactory, that he must always make known the number of men he escorts; that the word detachment means nothing; that, if he had sent a suitable force, he would have thrashed the Cossacks, Order General Broussier and him to form three big ones. parties of cavalry and infantry, commanded by intelligent officers, to set night ambushes for the Cossacks in places where the road can be most easily intercepted; that they must recognize the places where they stand and attack them. Recommend to General Ornano to send very detailed reports every day and all the information he takes.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,[250]

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19257. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 6, 1812.

My Cousin, inform General Baraguey of Hilliers of all the arrangements which concern the organization of the 9th Corps and the position which it must hold. Let him know that I adhere perfectly to his request to have a big corps in Viazma, a big corps in Ghjatsk, a big corps in Dorogobouje, that I therefore order to retain the following troops, that you will order the commander of Ghjatsk not to let Ghjatsk pass, and the duke d'Abrantes not to let Mojaisk pass, if these troops had not yet passed these points, namely, two battalions of the guards of Hesse-Darmstadt, two battalions of the 8th Westphalian regiment, three 3rd battalions of the Vistula, two battalions of Meckienburg, the 1st battalion of the 33rd regiment of light infantry, and the regiment of Wurtemberg which comes from Danzig, and which must now be at Vilna, from where he will go to Smolensk; which will make twelve battalions.

General Baraguey of Hilliers will place the Mecklenburg regiment at Dorogohouje, five battalions at Viazma, and five battalions at Ghjatsk. He will be master of both of these last two points, as he will hear. As a result, the Westphalian battalions, other than the two battalions of the 8th regiment, will return to Mojaisk; the line of demarcation between the Duke of Abrantes and General Bamguey Hilliers will be the post midway between Ghjatsk and Mojaisk.

All these troops have already returned to their destination, except the Wurtemberg regiment, which will not arrive until the end of October. The Mecklenburg regiment arrives on the 8th of October at Smolensk; the regiment of Westphalia, that of Hesse-Darmstudt, and the battalions of the Vistula have already passed; those of the 33rd light are in Smolensk. The 33rd Light has two battalions, the 1st and 4th, arriving at Smolensk: you will order that all available men of the 4th Battalion be poured into the 1st Battalion, and that the 4th Battalion's cadre returns to Franks to take conscripts. You will inform General Baraguey of Hilliers that he will have under his command at Smolensk the Illyrian regiment, which has four battalions, the 129th, which has three battalions, the infantry regiments of the 4th and 5th, which were formed at Konigsberg, which will remain until further notice at Smolensk, the 1st, 2nd and 4th demi-brigades of march, which arrive from the 10th to the 12th at Smolensk; which will bring the garrison of Smolensk to 12,000 men. This force will allow General Baraguey Hilliers[251]

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to remove, if necessary, an Illyrian battalion and a 129th battalion to reinforce the line.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19258. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 6, 1812.

Cousin, let the Duke de Bellune know that I have not yet given him orders for his movement, because it depends on the movement of the enemy; that the Russian army of Moldavia, with three divisions or 20,000 men, including infantry, cavalry, and artillery, passed the Dnieper in the first days of September; that it may go to Moscow to reinforce the army commanded by General Kutuzov, or Volhynia to reinforce Tormasof's army; that the army of General Kutuzof, defeated at the battle of the Moskva, is now on Kaluga, which might suggest that it is expecting reinforcements from Moldavia by the Kief road; that, in this hypothesis, the Duke de Bellune should be ordered to come and meet at the Grand Army. either by the road of Yelnia and Kaluga, or by any other; that, on the contrary, if the 20,000 men of Moldavia had come to the aid of Tormasof, this reinforcement would bring Torrnasof to 40,000 men; but that our right, commanded by Prince Schwarzenberg, would still be of equal strength, since this prince, with the Austrians, the Poles, and the Saxons, has about 40,000 men; that, besides, I have asked the Emperor of Austria, that the corps commanded by the Austrian general Heuss at Lemberg is moving, and that Prince Schwarzenherg receives a reinforcement of 10,000 men; that, on the other hand, the enemy strengthens as much as he can the garrison of Riga and the corps of Wittsenstein, in order to be able to dislodge the Marshal St. Cyr of Polotsk and the Duke of Taranto of Riga and Dinabourg, that letters from Prince Schwarzenberg, dated the 24th, tend to prove that the army of Moldavia, instead of coming to Moscow, went to the army of Tormasof and reinforced it; that it is necessary to know what will happen; that, in this state of things, I desire the Duke of Bellune to keep his corps from Smolensk to Oreha; that he maintain an exact correspondence by all the couriers with the duke of Bassano, so that this minister writes to him and gives him all the news that he would have different points; that he sends a[252]

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a wise, discreet and intelligent officer with General Schwarzenberg and General Reynier; that this officer will learn from General Schwarzenberg what is going on and from General Reynier the true state of affairs; that he should set himself in correspondence with the governor of Minsk, and that he should finally send agents in different directions to find out what is going on; that Gerard's division will be placed on the side of Orcha, where it will be four or five steps from Minsk, three from Vitebsk, and four or five from Polotsk, than the other division, which will be between Orcha and Smolensk, He will be able to support it quickly, and finally the 3rd division will be near Smolensk; that by this means his army corps will rest and be able to feed easily; that it must be placed at the top of the road, in order to leave great communication for the arriving troops; that in this position he will also be able to go to Minsk or Vilna, if this center of our communications and our depots were threatened and if Marshal Saint-Cyr was pushed to Polotsk, or to execute the order that he would receive to come to Moscow by the road of Velnia and Kaluga, if the capture of Moscow and the new state of things had decided the enemy to reinforce himself of a portion of the troops of Moldavia; that, therefore, the Duke of Bellune will form the general reserve to go either to the aid of Prince Schwarzenberg and to cover Minsk, or to the aid of Marshal St. Cyr and cover Vilna, or finally to Moscow to strengthen the Grand Army; that General Dombrowski, who has a division of 8,000 men of infantry and 1,200 Polish horses, is under his command, which will bring his army corps to four divisions, that the reserve brigade of Vilna, composed of the 4th regiment of Westphalia, two battalions from Hesse-Darmstadt which, by the end of this month, are coming from Swedish Pomerania, and two cannon parts, will also be under his orders, and that, in the course of November, two new divisions, one in Warsaw, it is the 32nd division, which will be augmented by the three battalions of Würzburg and will remain commanded by General Durutte, the 1st at Konigsberg, it is the 34th division, which was in Pomerania under the command of General Morand, who, augmented also by a few battalions, will henceforth be under the orders of General Loison, so that, whether it be necessary to come to Moscow, to march to the aid of Prince Schwarzenberg or to the aid of the marshal Sainl-Cyr, the Duke of Bell one can always gather a mass of 40,000 men; that, as the correspondence by the courier is prompt, I will always be able to give my orders, and that it would only be in the case where Minsk or Vilna would be threatened that the Duke de Bellune should set himself in motion, his[253]

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authority, to cover these two large depots of the army; that the Duke of Belluno, having the general command over all Lithuania and the governments of Smolensk and Vilebsk, should everywhere activate the march of the administration, and especially take effective measures to ensure that the requisitions of corn and fodder take place ; that there are furnaces at Mohilef, Orcha, Rossusna, and Doubrovua; that he must make a great deal of cooking and put himself in a position to have thirty days' food for his corps, without taking anything either on the military transports or on the convoys which would come to the army. The Duke of Belluno will be careful also to have a correspondence with Vitebsk; he is master of sending troops to support this point and to maintain it; he will be able to go to Mohild, Vitebsk, Smolensk, to know the land well and to make the administration work. If by any accident. the communication with Moscow was to be intercepted, he would be careful to send cavalry and infantry to reopen it.

NAPOLEON.

P, S. His headquarters must be in Smolensk.
From the original. Deposit of the war.

19259. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 6, 1812.

Cousin, I have made known to you by my letter of the 4th of this month the organization which I wished to give to the 9th Corps, here are modifications which have become necessary: The two battalions of the 8th Westphalian regiment and the two battalions of Hesse. Since Darmstadt has already passed Smolensk, I do not want any retrograde movement, so the 28th division will be composed of: 1st brigade, six battalions of the 4th, 7th and 9th Polish regiments, 2nd brigade, four Saxon battalions of Low and Rechten; brigade, two battalions of the Fourth Regiment of Westphalia, and two battalions of Hesse-Darmstadt. These four battalions come from Swedish Pomerania, I have ordered that they should be first directed to Vilua, under the rank of reserve brigade. It should henceforth be given the name of the 3rd Brigade of the 28th Division (9th Corps), and by this hub, the division will be composed of fourteen battalions All the troops of Baden who are in the army, except the battalion from the headquarters, will be part of the 26th Division; for this purpose, the battalion of Baden which is en route[254]

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to reach Smolensk will join this division to Orcha, The artillery of the 9th corps will be composed: 12th division, a company of artillery on foot and a company of artillery on horseback; 26th Division, fourteen pieces of Berg, and eight pieces of Baden; 28th division, that division will have two companies of artillery he foot, independently of the artillery Saxon and Polish. Until we could organize two batteries of eight pieces, on foot, permanently attached to this division, the two reserve batteries of the Guard, served by the 8th regiment on foot, will be supplied to the Duke of Bellune. There must be some artillery between Vilna and Smolensk. It is necessary also to increase the resources of the corps in munitions. so that they have more than a complete supply of equipment, the 9th Corps will also have two spare batteries of sixteen pieces of 12 and two howitzers, while waiting for these batteries to be formed to be permanently attached to the 9th corps. I consent to be given two auxiliary batteries of the Guard, served by the 8th artillery, and which must be between Vilua and Smolensk. Thus, by these operations, the 9th corps would immediately have seventy-two pieces of positional gun, besides the regimental pieces. Make it known to the Duke of Bellune that the artillery is necessary; that in the present war we employ many, and that seventy-two to one hundred pieces of cannon are not too much; that it needs especially pieces of 12. It is necessary that the general of artillery organizes, either in Danzig, or elsewhere. the batteries of these divisions, and that on the artillery states of the Guard, a bullet of horse artillery, two batteries of foot artillery, and two auxiliary reserve batteries are carried as detached to the 9th corps; total, five batteries. As there are ten auxiliary batteries attached to the Guard, there will still be five left, and the artillery general will take all necessary measures to reach the Guards Reserve as soon as possible.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19260. - TO CAPTAIN OF HAUTPOUL,
ORDERLY OFFICER OF THE EMPEROR, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 6, 1812.

Baron d'Hautpoul, go through all the hospitals in the city tomorrow. Put me on a plane their name and the indication of the number of patients, either French, or Russian soldiers, or inhabitants, that they contain, distinguishing the wounded from the feverish ones. Joiguez ahead[255]

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a contribution on the behavior of each establishment. Use the day of tomorrow to do this job.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by M, General Marquis d'Hautpoul,

19261.- TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA,

Moscow, October 6, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, the Duke de Bellune remains at Smolensk; he has a division in Orcha. The Dombrowski division is still on Bobrouisk's side. By this means, this marshal is in a position to cover Minsk and Vilna, from whatever side they are attacked. I hold him in this position in reserve until I know definitely the affairs of Schwarzenberg. Durutte's division, with a strength of 12,000 men, will arrive at Warsaw on the 20th of October, and General Loison will have a division of such a force at Konigsberg. It is necessary that you write to the Duke de Bellune all the news you will have, informing him of the progress of the march of Durutte's division, which must have passed Posen, as well as the progress made in his march. Loison's division, which must now be on the Vistula, You will also communicate to him all the news which you will have relative to the 4th Westphalian regiment and to the two battalions of Darmstadt. These four battalions, which were at Stralsund, were ordered to surrender, with a piece of cannon, from Darmstadt to Vilna, where they will be at the disposal of the Duke de Bellune to form the 3rd brigade of Girard's division. I ordered the 6th battalion of the 46th, the 6th battalion of the 93rd and the 6th battalion of the 22nd light, to stop at Minsk. Instruct the governor, and let me know where these battalions are and when they arrive.

Inform me of the condition of the 3rd Spearman: where are the 400 men he has and when will he have the 800 others? I have the greatest need of horses. I told you what steps I took. I order Count Daru to send you a copy of my decree and statements. So speed up the supply of the thousand cavalry horses that Lithuania must provide.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[256]

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19262. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow. October 6, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, forty portable mills left post from Paris on September 6; we are in 6 October, so they must have passed Vilna. I asked you to inform you of the march of this convoy. My intention is that you remove one of these mills to serve as a model. Have it operated under your eyes, and let me know how much it has been grinding in twenty-four hours, and how many men have succeeded each other in this work. I want you to have fifty of these mills built in Vilna according to the one that will serve you as a model. As soon as you have two or three of them, you will send one to Warsaw and one to Konigsberg, ordering fifty to be sent to Warsaw for the Durull division and fifty to Konigsberg for the Loison division. You will also send one to Minsk to make fifty. I suppose there are workers in the country who will do this promptly. It will also send one to the Duke of Taranto, to make it on this model in Miltau. Moreover, after taking this model, you will continue to walk this convoy, because I look forward to receiving it. A second convoy of reruns sixty of these mills, loaded on four caissons, left Paris stationed on September 16th; he must not delay to arrive. If the first one had already passed, you would do this operation on the second one. I authorize you to stop at this second send six, which you will send in due diligence to Marshal Saint-Cyr; perhaps he will be able to have it manufactured in Polotsk, and he will also receive a larger number on the third and fourth convoys.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19263. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 8, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to General Durutte, who is at Berlin, to go to Warsaw, in order to have arrived at the same time as his division, and to be able to organize it well. This division will be composed of three brigades; as it is impossible to attach light artillery there and that it has no regimental artillery, that yet it has eighteen battalions, including the regiment of[257]

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Würzburg, my intention is that this division be given three artillery batteries on foot (forming twenty-four pieces including six howitzers) and twenty-two pieces of 6. Already the 22nd company of the 1st artillery regiment on foot and the 2nd Company of the 5th Regiment must have arrived at this division. Propose to me to attach two companies of artillery on foot and two companies of the train, taking for each one those which are the nearest of Warsaw. You must also propose to me a superior officer to command and organize this artillery. As for the material, let me know where it could be drawn. One could take that of the Poles, who must have at Modlin, until we can designate the one who will be assigned to this division. As for the horses, if there are none within reach, General Dutaillis will buy them, so that this division may, at the beginning of November, set in motion, if that were necessary for the defense of the Grand Duchy. It is, therefore, important that General Durutte be restored without delay to take the command, and that General Duluillis should have the latitude to help him organize it promptly. The men of the train can not miss; there are some in Posen, in Elbing, in Glogau. If the horses are missing, with the authorization that I give to buy some, we can have some quickly.

The 34th Division will have sixteen battalions. Two batteries on foot will be sufficient. Order that these two batteries, forming sixteen guns, be promptly organized at Konigsberg, designate the two companies of artillery on foot and the company of the train necessary to serve this artillery, and that General Loison be authorized to purchase the horses to harness him.

NAPOLEON

From the original, Depot of War.

19264. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 8, 1812.

Cousin, write to the viceroy, to the Prince of Eckmühl, to the Duke of Elchingen, to the Duke of Treviso, that it is necessary that they take measures, each in his district, to procure the quantity of flour, enough for two months and biscuit for a month; so that they always have at least three months of food before them and three months of wheat. The Duke of Treviso will make his supply[258]

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in the Moscow district. You will order that every eight days these commanders and their officers send a report of their stores and what they have been able to procure in wheat, flour, oatmeal and biscuit, and what cattle they have in the park. They will also have to buy potatoes for three months and sauerkraut for six months. Brandy will be supplied from the general store. The deposits in which these provisions will be contained will be, for the 1st corps, the convent of the 13th light; for the 4th corps, the prisons situated on the St. Petersburg road: for the 3rd corps, the convent near the powder magazines; for the Duke of Treviso, as well as for the cavalry and artillery of the Guard, the Kremlin.

It is necessary to choose three entrenched convents, on the roads of Kaluga, Tula, and Vladimir, to prevent them from being cut off. It is necessary to organize the regiment of cavalry on foot, so that it can serve to keep the city during the absence of the year. Finally, we must order that we work at all the entrenchments of the convents and that they are armed with one or two pieces of cannon.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19265. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA

Moscow, October 8, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, you will find attached the report of the intendant on the stores that exist in Vilna, Minsk, Vitebsk, Mohilef, as a result of the requisitions I have made. You will see that there is little information; either by the difficulty of the correspondence, or by the negligence of the directors. Please send me a report of what these requisitions have produced and what is in the various stores. Press, as far as possible in this respect, the different governments; because it is the only way to save the country the devastation it suffered last summer. Other troops can also arrive. Governments will be very guilty if they do not make wheat stores and do not grind flour. I notice that there is very little rice in Kovno.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[259]

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19266. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow, October 8, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I have received your letter, in which you send me that of Prince Schwarzenberg of the 21st. Tell this general not to allow himself to be imposed by the Russians; that the Russians still greatly exaggerate their strengths; that letters from Tormasof, which I intercepted here, suggest that, even with the reinforcements of Moldavia, he is less powerful than Prince Schwarzenberg. Make it known also that I am astonished that General Heuss does not make a movement on the rear of the Russians; write to Otto to urge him to make this move. Send to Prince Schwarzenberg and General Reynier an intelligent agent who can make known what General Reynier thinks and what is the real state of affairs on this side. Instruct the Duke of Taranto that I suppose that, if he has thought them exposed, he will have removed the powders and the sieges; that, as for balls and bombs, this is less important, because it would always be possible to obtain easily Danzig.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19267. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Moscow, October 8, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, as soon as the 2nd regiment of voltigeurs and the 2nd regiment of tirailleurs can leave, well dressed and well equipped and complete to 1,600 men per regiment, that is to say 3,200 men the brigade; you will review it, and you will send it to Magdeburg.

To make train in regiment of march all that would be available and able to campaign, of the old Guard, or fusiliers, are flankers, or voltigeurs and tirailleurs, who have their regiment with the army , and have them leave for Magdeburg too.

Review and proceed to the reform of all the men of the regiments of voltigeurs, tirailleurs, flankers, national guards, who would be out of state to campaign. Those who would be in the case of doing the service in Paris, you can leave them there.

See also to train a 6 or 700 horse marching regiment[260]

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Mamelukes, chasseurs, grenadiers, elite gendarmes, and light cavalry of the two regiments, with a hundred men of artillery, to whom you will give as many times two horses as there are soldiers of the train available. Take care of the training and the completion of the 2nd battalion of the 113th, so that you can soon direct it on Erfurt. In the 5th battalions and depots of the regiments, make useless men who can no longer serve in the army. Make sure that all the men of the 5 squadrons available are my wounded and able to walk. I am awaiting a report on the gunners companies of the cohorts of national guards. Have they all been polygons, and can they be used on the coasts and in the forts?

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19268. - DECISION.

Moscow, October 10, 1812.

The Count of Montalivet, Minister of the Interior, submits to the Emperor a decision of the management of the printing press and the bookstore to prohibit the publication of a historical work likely to damage the reputation of a member of the royal family of Analeterre.	I totally disapprove of this false direction given to censorship: it is responsible for what we print. My intention is to print everything, absolutely everything, except obscene books and what would tend to disturb the tranquility of the state. Censorship must pay no attention to everything else.

NAPOLEON

From the original, Archives the Empire.

19269, - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 10, 1812.

My Cousin, the road from Smolensk to Mojaisk being exhausted, it is fitting that you write to General Baraguey Hilliers to charge the commanders of Dorogobouje, Ghjulsk, Viazma, etc., to recognize two parallel roads, two or three leagues from the right and where there would be resources, so that detachments along these roads touched[261]

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Dorogobouje, from Viazma, from Mojaisk, but turned to look for a road where there would be villages and shelters.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19270. - TO THE COUNT DE MONTALIVET,
MINISTER OF INTERIOR, PARIS.

Moscow, October 11, 1812.

I do not approve of the direction censorship is taking. My intention is to leave the entire liberty of the press, to put no gene in it, to be content with stopping the obscene works or tending to disturb the interior. Moreover, whether a work is well or badly written, stupid or witty, containing wise or foolish ideas, useful or indifferent, we must not pay attention to it. The questions to be asked by the director of the bookstore are: 1st) Is the book obscene, and would its publication be contrary to the rules of the municipal police? 2nd) Does the book have a bill to awaken the passions, to form factions or to sea disorders in the interior? Whenever a work is not in one of these two cases, it must be allowed to pass.

Extract from the History of France, etc., by Bignon.

19271. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LA RIBOISIERE,
COMMANDER ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 11, 1812.

General Riboisière, I order that the 13 artillery companies that are in Erfurt, Magdeburg, Spandau, Glogau, Küstrin, Steltin, Strulsund, Thoru, Dauzig, Pillau and Kovno , join the army as soon as they are replaced by 22 companies that I bring from the interior of France. By this means, you will have these 22 companies that will start and the 13 companies that are in the places, which makes 35 companies that you will have the following way, namely: 3 companies for the Guard, 1 for the 3rd corps, 4 for the 32nd and 34th infantry divisions, 2 for the 28th division, 2 for the reserve battery attached to the 9th corps, 2 to be sent to Vilna, 1 to be sent to Minsk, 3 to be sent to Smolensk , which will make 18 companies. You will have 17 companies for the general park and to provide for all the events.[262]

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The 22 companies sent by the Minister of War will be directed, namely: 1 company on Erfurt, 2 companies on Magdeburg, 2 on Spandau, 2 on Stralsund, 2 on Glogau, 2 on Küstrin, 2 on Stettin, 1 on Thorn, 4 on Danzig, 2 on Pillau and Kœnigsberg and 2 on Kovno

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the count tic la Riboisière.

19272. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Moscow, October 14, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, I have long ago ordered that the Heudelet division went to Swedish Pomerania to replace the Morand division, which I brought on Danzig and Koenigsberg. There would be only one brigade of cohorts in the 32nd military division. I thought I had ordered you to send a second brigade, composed of old Frenchmen, for instance the one in Utrecht or the one in Antwerp. Send out a second brigade without delay. By this means, there will be 12 cohorts in the 32nd military division occupying Lubeck, Hamburg, Bremen, etc. You will also order 2 other brigades to be ready to go there in case of descent or invasion, so that instead of 18 cohorts, namely: 6 who are there and 12 who must go there at the first threat, there are 24, namely: 12 who will winter in the 32nd division and 12 off come from France.

Recommend to the Duke of Castiglione to take the greatest care in the organization of these troops and their complete dress. Have them do the exercise on fire and shoot at the target.

I think it would be necessary also to send them their 12 artillery companies, which will serve for the coasts of the 32nd Division, and which will also serve the field artillery if necessary.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Hold these 12 cohorts in full by sending men from their depots.

According to the copy. Deposit of your war.[263]

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19273, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 14, 1812.

Cousin, I see from your report of the 14th that on the 9th a convoy of artillery of the Guard, commanded by Colonel Pellegrin, left Smolensk for Moscow. I am surprised at this, since I had ordered that no convoy of artillery should be removed from Smolensk. Testify my displeasure to the Duke de Bellune, and reiterate the order that all the convoys of artillery are arrested at Smolensk.

Send the order to the Duke d'Abrantes to let no artillery convoy pass to Moscow, from tomorrow, 15, and to have them all backed down to Smolensk. Send the same order to the commanders of Ghjatsk and Viazma.

Order that as of the 17th, no troop of artillery or cavalry should exceed Mojaisk, Ghjalsk, or Viazrna. The Duke of Abrantes will gather to his troops all that come from Smolensk to Mojaisk, by sending the state; the commander of Ghjatsk will gather all that would happen in Ghjatsk, and the commander of Viazma all that would happen to Viazma, That will increase the garrison of these ladders. Each one will send the state of what will happen, so that by the couriers one can make known the destination that will have to receive these troops, according to the movements that will make the army.

As for the military crews, it seems to me that the order was given that they poured their flours to the abbey and back of Mojaisk, and that the cars came to the abbey and Mojaisk to take sick and evacuate them on Smolensk.

Make it known to the Duke of Abrantes that it is essential that the 20th Abbey and Mojaisk be evacuated: inform the commander of Ghjatsk that all 22 of his patients must be evacuated, since the army will take a another position, that the direction of the army will be changed and all that road abandoned

NAPOLEON.

According to the original, War Depot,

19274. - TO MADAME LA COMTESSE GUDIN

Moscow, October 15, 1812,

Countess Gudin, I take part in your regrets; the loss is great for you (1); it is so for me too. You and your children

1) General Gudin, commanding the 3rd Division of the 1st Corps, had the

will always have rights with me. The Minister Secretary of State sends you the patent of a pension of twelve thousand francs which I have granted you on the Treasury of France, and the steward of the extraordinary domain will send you the decree by which I grant an endowment of four a thousand francs to each of your younger children with the title of baron. Elevate them in feelings that make them worthy of their father.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Gudin.

19275. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow, October 16, 1812.

Letter in numeral which it was not possible to make the translation. It is believed that the extract from the following dispatch, addressed by the Duke de Bassano to Count Otto, the French ambassador at Vienna, reproduces the most important part of this numerical letter.

….. I made known to you by my letter of the 17th, and according to the news received from the headquarters on the 9th, that a change in the positions of the army was possible, and "that it might happen that towards the month of November. His Majesty took his winter quarters between the Borysthenes and the Dvina, in order to be more within reach of his assistance, to make the army rest, and to attend more easily to many business."

The details that reach me today from Moscow, dated the 16th and 17th, confirm these provisions. Their execution will produce sensation, especially in countries which are far from the theater of war. This may result in new combinations, the existence of which will be manifested near you. It is therefore useful that you be warned in advance and by the fact itself and the aspect under which it should be presented. I communicate to you for this purpose the lexicon of my correspondence.

"His Majesty evacuated the wounded they sick on Smolensk, numbering 2 or 3,000, and proposed to leave Moscow on the 19th, to go to Kaluga, beat the enemy army if it wants, as it is announced cover this large town and, depending on the season, go to Tula or Bryansk, or return immediately to Smolensk if the weather becomes severe. The Emperor reckons his winter quarters

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both legs taken in the Volutina battle on August 19th, and died in Smolensk on the 21st of the same month.[265]

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will be caught between Smolensk, Minsk and Mohilef, in the first weeks of November. He is spurning this movement because Moscow, which has ceased to exist, is not a military position for its future operations. From Moscow to Kief there are two hundred and fifteen leagues, and from Smolensk to Kief there are only a hundred and twelve; from Smolensk to Petersburg, there are but a hundred and forty leagues, while from Moscow to Petersburg there are one hundred and ninety, and this course, moreover, would always require the taking of a line of operation which would come back on Vitebsk. The army will be at Smolensk, supported by a friend who will provide for all his needs, and the Emperor will be able to prepare his means for the Petersburg campaign, and to go where his presence would be necessary."

This simple outline will suggest suitable explanations, when you are in the case of giving them. In the meantime, it is important to let nothing penetrate what I write to you. In things of this nature, the event is sometimes different. Much of what was expected ...

DUKE OF BASSANO.

Vilna, October 26, 1812.

P. S. At the moment my mail is about to leave, I receive from Moscow, October 19, the following paragraph:

"The year is up, we will decide tomorrow to blow the Kremlin and to pass or Kaluga or Viazma, to arrive before the cold weather and take the winter quarters. All the rest is fine.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19276. - TO MADAME LA COMTESSE DE MONTESQUIOU, GOVERNOR OF THE CHILDREN OF FRANCE, IN PARIS.

Moscow, October 16, 1812.

Countess de Montesquiou, I received your letter of September 28th. I agree with the feelings you express to me. I am entirely indebted to you for the care so true that you take of the little King, I am very grateful for it: I hear with pleasure speak of the hopes he gives.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count de Montesquiou - Fezensac.[266]

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19277. - TO GENERAL IN CHIEF KOUTOUZOF.

Moscow October 18, 1812.

General Lauriston had been charged with proposing that your Highness make arrangements to bring the war into conformity with the established rules, and to take measures to make the country bear only the indispensable evils which result from the state of war. In fact, the devastation of his own country is detrimental to Russia as much as it painfully affects the Emperor. Your Highness will easily feel the interest I have in knowing about the definitive determination of your government.

By order of the Emperor,
ALEXANDRE, Prince of Neuchâtel and Wagram.

According to the minute. Deposit of the war.

19278. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow, October 16, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, here I have two Prussian regiments who have distinguished themselves in the vanguard of the Grand Army, but, of course, they have suffered a great deal. Could the King of Prussia have them raised by two fresh and well-mounted regiments? These two regiments would then return to Prussia to remake themselves there. The King would gain in every way, since he would not need to pay so quickly to remount these regiments, and that would add to many of his troops who were disciplined and would have become accustomed to war in these great movements.

I gave the Prussian contingent a natural direction by sending it to Riga; But I wish the help of my 7th division was not necessary on this side. I therefore ask the King of Prussia if he would not wish to make an increase of 1,000 horses and 6,000 infantrymen to Riga, and to be equivalent to the 7th Division. He can easily draw these troops from Konigsberg, Kolberg, and Graudenz, and by this means they would arrive in a few days. They would be replaced by what would be fired from further away, by completing a few cadres or bringing troops from Silesia. Thus the King of Prussia would assemble in line 1,000 men of cavalry and 20,000 infantrymen. It will be easy for you to understand that it is in his interest that everything should end promptly, since in the meantime he finds himself tired and uncomfortable; that there is not[267]

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that a good way to end this struggle, is to show Russia the impossibility of undermining the army, as it hopes, by the great means of recruitment that the Emperor not only in his states, but also by the help of his allies. The same reasoning must be done in Austria; the same must be done in Bavaria, Stuttgart and everywhere. Not only do I want reinforcements to be sent, but I also wish to exaggerate these dispatches, and let the sovereigns put in their gazettes the large number of troops that leave, doubling the number. It is understood that the Prussian corps which is at Memel must not be included in these reinforcements.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19279, - DECISION,

Moscow, October 16, 1812.

The Minister of War informs the Emperor of the measures he has taken to remedy the nostalgia affecting the 72nd and 75th cohorts.	Not only do I approve of these measures, but I disapprove of having put these cohorts in danger of taking fevers, since there was nothing to fear for Walcheren; besides, the squadron which is there could, in the event of an event, throw in 1,500 men. It is, to fight a chimerical evil, to attract a real evil.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

NAPOLEON.

19280. - To M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow, October 17, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I have read with interest, in your letter of the 10th of this month, all that you tell me about the supply of the 1st corps, but the 6,000 quintals will not be of great importance help; it is flour that must be sent and not wheat. It is necessary that the district of Minsk provide on Smolensk and not on Polotsk.

I see in your letter that the transports already made from Kovno to Minsk amount to 30,000 quintals, which cost me 600,000 francs.[268]

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I would like to have the state of what composed these 30,000 quintals. If they are effects of hospitals, there is nothing to say; if it is munitions of war which the general of artillery has recognized the urgency, it is still good; but if it were biscuit and flour, there would be absurdity on the part of the administration to make me pay 20 francs the quintal of flour returned to Minsk, and this not including what the same quintal cost me to buy and transport previously to Kovno, when the quintal of flour is not worth 6 francs in Minsk. There would be so much stupidity in this operation that I do not believe it. I want you to clarify that. It is mainly clothing effects that must be transported to Minsk and Vilna.

As for food, there must be a large quantity in these two cities. If there were none, the government commission would be very guilty, and I could only express my dissatisfaction to everyone.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. I send you my reply to the King of Saxony (1)
From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19281. - IN THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow. October 17, 1812.

Cousin, send to the Duke of Bellune, on the 20th or 21st, to send Baraguey's division from Hilliers to go to Velnia, a town twenty-two leagues from Smolensk, on the road to Kaluga. If Hilliers General Baraguey had not yet arrived, having left Mojaisk on the 14th, he would give the command of this division to the general he judged most capable. This division will be composed of the three demi-brigades of march which formed part of the Lagrange division. It is necessary that he knows attached to this division a battery of at least six pieces of cannon; there must be some at Smolensk, coming to join the army, either of the artillery of the Guard, or other. If he were not there, the Duke de Bellune would have to supply them with his corps. This marshal will form a regiment of cavalry marching with the squadrons of march which must have arrived at Smolensk. He will gather the detachments of the same corps and the same weapons in the same squadrons, so as to make a beautiful regiment of four

1) This letter has not been found.[269]

squadrons and 1,000 horses. He will attach a company of sappers with tools to that division, which, arriving on the evening of the 23rd at Yelnia, will immediately build ovens and establish cattle shops, flours and other provisions. The Polish cavalry regiment must always be at Smolensk; he will be part of this division. The cavalry will be commanded by a cavalry brigadier general, those who come to join the army, or by a superior officer. This operation is important. The road will be organized from Yelnia to Smolensk, by putting 100 men of six leagues in six leagues, with a commander, who will retreat to be safe from the Cossacks. This will mark the stages of Smolensk in Yelnia. The Duke of Bellune will send on the road to Yeluia the pieces of artillery and military transports which will arrive at Smolensk, by making all these things in order, so that there are no clashes. The cavalry will march in force and as much as possible, with infantry and cannon still within range.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19282. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 18, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to General Eble, to the pontooners and to the deck crew, to leave tomorrow at daybreak to follow the movement of the Imperial Guard. Give General Chasseloup the same order for the engineering park.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19283.- TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 18, 1812.

Cousin, send to the King of Naples the whole army is in motion. The Duke of Istria, with my guard on horseback, sleeps four leagues tonight; I'm leaving tonight. I will take the road to Desna, unless the news that I receive that night will make me change my determination. An officer sent by General Girardin has told us that the King had gone to Voronovo. Broussier's division is at Forninskiya with General Ornano. It is necessary that the King read i send orders to be speaking[270]

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where the movements of the enemy will require it, either to Voronovo or to Desna. We suppose that the King will have written directly, the cannonade having ceased at midday. The news he will send me will enable me to know the state of things well.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19284. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW,

Moscow, October 13, 1812.

Cousin, order Prince Eckmühl to carry his headquarters tonight beyond the gate of Kaluga, and to place his infantry, artillery, and all his military equipments, as well as his baggage, in such a manner as to be able to leave tomorrow, it's the beginning of the day, to make a strong day. He will leave a guard at the entrenched convent, until the Duke of Treviso has had it raised, if necessary.

Order the Duke of Elchingen to take his headquarters out of the Kaluga Gate today and to bivouac with his infantry, cavalry, artillery and baggage, so that a strong day can be made tomorrow. Give the same order to the viceroy, who will take a league forward, so that he may go first.

Order the small headquarters, the Duke of Danzig, at the Emperor's headquarters, to leave the gate of Kaluga; the Guard will camp in a square around the Emperor's quarters.

The Duke of Elchingen will leave a rear guard of infantry and cavalry at the entrenched convent and at the Kolomna Gate, which he keeps. This troop will make the rear guard and will only leave when the corps receives the order to walk. The viceroy will also leave a rear guard of infantry and cavalry at the gate of St. Petersburg and the entrenched house which he occupies, until his corps moves forward and the Duke of Treviso provided for the replacement of this guard. If the viceroy leaves a deposit, he will charge him to keep this place.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[271]

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19285. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 18, 1812.

Cousin, let the Duke of Treviso know that I am going to-morrow with the army to pursue the enemy, that it is my intention that the Duke of Treviso should lodge in the Kremlin and barracks there, 1st) Delaborde's division; 2nd) the brigade of General Carrière, composed of four battalions of cavalry on foot and nearly 4,000 strong; 3rd) two companies of sappers; 4th) an artillery company; 5th, the artillery of the Delaborde division; finally a brigade of 500 men on horseback. With this force, the Duke of Treviso will be able to guard the city, but with the proper prudence. The intendant will leave an authorizing officer, several commissioners of wars and heads of service. The engineer general will leave a superior officer commander. The artillery general will leave a superior artillery officer and several artillery officers. The Duke of Treviso will work with the greatest activity on the armament of the Kremlin, and will put in battery the pieces which are here; he will have a little earthen battery built on the platform, where he will have his country pieces put in order to beat the stone bridge; he will hold a strong post at the convent of Prince Eckmühl, whose position is important because it commands a bridge over the Moskva. All the sick who will be here will be reunited with the foundlings; there must be 3 to 400, so they must be kept in force. The brandy store, near the stone bridge, must also be guarded by a strong detachment. All the shops that are too far away, the Duke of Treviso will have them assembled in the Kremlin. All the generals, senior administration officers who are here, will be staying in the Kremlin. The commandant of the place and the intendant may continue to lodge in the governor's lodging or in the lodging which the Duke of Treviso occupies near the Kremlin. The Duke of Treviso will see if he wants to keep the convent of Marshal Ney. It would be useful to keep in one post the prison which the viceroy had cut off on the road to St. Petersburg, for all the rest he would reduce the service as he wished, keeping preferably what was to be closer to the Kremlin.

Tomorrow, when the army is gone, he will have the municipality issue a proclamation to warn the inhabitants that the evacuation sounds are false, that the army is on Kaluga, Tula and Bryansk, to seize these points. and manufactures[272]

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weapons found there; to engage the inhabitants to maintain the police and to prevent the complete destruction of the city. He will begin the work of the Kremlin tomorrow and will ensure that they are pushed with the greatest activity. He will have strong patrols in the city, especially near the gates of Mojaisk and Kaluga, to collect any convoys and regiments en route from Mojaisk to get here.

The Boguet division will stay here tomorrow; She will leave tomorrow evening, escorting the treasure and the intendant's headquarters.

The Duke of Treviso will make a severe police in the city; he will shoot any Russian soldier whom one finds in the street; for this purpose, he will order all those who are at the hospitals not to leave them; no small posts will be placed in order to be safe from the peasants malevolence and the Cossacks' surprises. Finally, the Duke of Treviso must gather as much food as he can; he will make a lot of biscuit; he will ensure food for at least a month in flours, potatoes, sauerkraut, brandy, wine, & c. He must preserve this supply for urgent circumstances, by grinding all the mills, so that, if possible, it can feed his day laborer.

Take care to give the Duke of Treviso a number so that correspondence with him may be free and secure.

NAPOLEON.

According to original. Deposit of the war.

19286. - TO MARSHAL MORTIER, DUKE OF TREVISO, COMMANDING THE YOUNG GUARD, GOVERNOR OF MOSCOW.

Moscow. October 18, 1812.

Cousin, you must keep all Moscow as far as possible without compromising the troops; you must above all keep the Kremlin, which is a stronghold; foundlings, where the sick must be reunited; the big brandy shop, the stone bridge and the convent of Prince Eckmühl, where there is a bridge over the Moskva. You will tomorrow work with activity to double the artillery which is in battery; you will work at the gates and shelter them from the cannon; you will place two pieces of cannon at the convent of Prince Eckmühl; all the convoys which will arrive at Moscow, you will place them under the protection of this convent, between the convent and the river; by this means they will be safe from all insults; you will not do anything anymore in the suburb where[273]

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we have arrived. You will take care tomorrow to have all the stragglers picked up and sent to them, Corps; the day after tomorrow, you will have them incorporated in your living quarters. Ask for a number so that the Major General can correspond easily and surely. Keep the cavalry regiments on foot for the defense of the Kremlin, the House of the Founders, the Stone Bridge and the barracks of the Prince of Eckmühl. May everyone be lodged in the Kremlin tomorrow, so that at night everyone is under the key; do not suffer anyone to enter the city, except the commandant of the place and the steward, who will stand near the foundlings and the Kremlin, having good guard. Collect food, cook biscuits, have the service done as in a war place. Would the whole hostile army be against you, you must stay in the Kremlin many days. Organize your brigade well on foot. There are colonels here, majors, captains of infantry, who are wounded slightly; put them at the head of these battalions. Take in the young Guard a dozen officers and non-commissioned officers to attach them to these battalions and instruct them. Pay close attention to the fire. Here you have 200,000 pounds of powder, 2 million cartridges, 300 crates loaded. Only write in numbers for important things. An artillery battalion commander is responsible for burning the Kremlin in case of order; let him study his work well. Leaks charge and carry on the towers bombs, shells and grenades to defend the walls.

NAPOLEON.

P.S. After the departure of the army, have the intendant issue a proclamation which reassures the inhabitants and informs them that they do not wish to evacuate their city.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Treviso,

19287. - TO THE GENERAL COUNTY OF THE RIBOISIÈRE, COMMANDING THE ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 18, 1812.

Monsieur le Riboisière, this evening I am wearing my headquarters at the Kaluga gate, where the whole army is going to bivouac. Tomorrow in the day, I will start to go where the enemy is.

The Duke of Treviso, with 10,000 men, remains in town, and any event will defend the Kremlin. It is therefore necessary that tomorrow[274]

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in the morning, all the caissons and carriages are assembled in the Kremlin. It is possible that I return to Moscow. Nothing, therefore, must be destroyed of what would be precious, such as powder, cartridges of infantry, shots of cannon, lead to make markets; but saltpetre, sulfur, may be burned; I have enough powder. The sheds, shops, which are around the city, can be burned. Russian caissons and other materials that can not be transported to the Kremlin will be burned tomorrow at eight o'clock in the morning, with sulfur and saltpetre.

The Duke of Treviso commanded in Moscow. There must be a superior officer of artillery with storekeepers. We must leave an artillery company for the service of the pieces on the rampart, and four artillery officers attached to the Kremlin for this important service.

It is necessary to have the most possible caissons as a result of the army. It is therefore necessary that the 400 horses of the deck crew draw the caissons that one has and follow the army. The general headquarters will leave tomorrow under the escort of an infantry division.

Write to the Duke of Treviso to inform him of the artillery colonel, the four artillery officers, and the artillery company, and leave you with all the details of the artillery of the Kremlin. The artillery company will employ the tomorrow and the next day to increase the defense of the Kremlin, to charge the shells, bombs, grenades, and to provide the means which can assure the defense of this place. The artillery officers charged with blowing up the Kremlin, when it is time, will stay in the Kremlin,

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Count de la Riboisière.

19288.- TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Moscow. October 19, 1812, five o'clock in the morning.

The Duke of Bassano, General Sebastiuni, placed a league to the left of the King of Naples in the vanguard, was surprised by a horde of Cossacks, the 18th at five in the morning he lost six pieces of cannon that were at the bivouac. The enemy infantry then went to the rear of the King of Naples to go and occupy a defilade. The king of Naples, at the head of the carabinieri and the cuirassiers, drove down this infantry and cut it open. General Dery, King's aide-de-camp, was killed. I give you these[275]

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details for your guidance. The losses are equal, to our nearest cannon pieces that we have lost.

The army is on the march; Tomorrow we will decide to blow up the Kremlin and go through Kaluga or Viazma to arrive before the cold weather and take the winter quarters. All the rest is fine(1).

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

19289. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 19, 1812.

My cousin, write to the King of Naples to let him know that the army sets in motion at five o'clock in the morning, to go on him by the road of Desna, that he must maneuver to hold himself at the head of the army; that the Prince of Hohenzollern has just arrived. Write to Chief of Staff Borelli that he should send you a statement of the prisoners we have made, the prisoners the enemy has made us, and our loss of men, baggage, artillery, & c.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19290. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MOSCOW.

Moscow, October 19, 1812.(2)

It seems that there will remain here a thousand sick or wounded; there may be more in the course of the march of the army if there is business; it is therefore indispensable to know the number of carriage that the army has in its wake, independently of the battalions of the train of the military crews and the companies of the regimental crews. Accordingly, the Major-General will give orders that in each army corps and the General Staff an exact census of all the carriage be made.

The owners of caissons, vans, sedans, carriages, cabriolets, briskas, carts, and generally of any carriage,

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1) This last paragraph, written in numeral on the original, could not be translated: it is given here according to a despatch sent by the duke of Bassano to the abbot of Pradt, a dispatch which seems to be the textual reproduction of the Emperor's letter.

2) Presumed date.[276]

will be required to make the declaration, so that these carriage can be ordered to take one or two wounded, when the circumstances require it. Declarations shall be made to the General Staff for the carriages of the Emperor's House, for those of the General Staff and the General Administration of the Army, and to the staff of each army corps for carriage belonging to this corps.

The wings will be registered and numbered, so that there is a series for the General Staff and a series for each corps. Each wing will be marked with the number given to him in his series. There shall be except from this disposition the carriage of the Emperor, a carriage of the major-general, one of the minister secretary of state, one of each marshal or general commander-in-chief of a corps, and one of the General Intendant of the Army.

The quartermaster of the headquarters and the post-officers of the corps will control the numbered carriage. Any unnumbered carriage will be confiscated. Any numbered carriage which has been ordered to take one or more wounded and which will be found on the march without the said wounded will be burned.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19291. - ORDER FOR THE GENERAL MAJOR.

Troilskoye, October 20, 1812.

On the 22nd, the cantonment of the Galitzine house will be removed, and consequently the posts of Desna and Charapova.

After six o'clock in the evening on the 21st, the courier must therefore retrogress from the Galitzine house on Kubinskoye and be sent from Kubinskoye to Ojigovo and Fominskiya, where the viceroy of Italy is.

The courier that will arrive up to and including 23 will follow this direction. The commander of Kuhinskoye will have the necessary means to escort them well.

On the 24th, Kubinskoye, to be evacuated, the courier who would arrive would retrogress on Mojaisk, the Duke of Abrantes, who will be warned, and send them on the Viceroy, with whom he must be in communication, on Fominskiya or on Borovsk.

Write to the Viceroy and the Duke of Abrantes to recommend this service.

The major general will send 100 Bavarian light horse to Kubinskoye.[277]

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The posts of courier will revert to Mojaisk as the line moves in another direction.

Send an officer of the staff of the Emperor and a postal agent to watch over this service and report through the passage of each courier.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war

19292. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT TROITSKOYE.

Troitskoye, October 20, 1812.

Cousin, order the Duke of Treviso to send out at break of day tomorrow, the tired and drunken men of the corps of the Prince d'Eckmühl and the Viceroy, the Foot Cavalry and the Young Guard, and to direct everything on Mojaisk.

On the 22nd or the 23rd, at two o'clock in the morning, he will set fire to the brandy store, the barracks and the public establishments, except at the house of the foundlings. He will die at the Kremlin Palace. He will take care that the guns are all broken into pieces; that powder be placed under the towers of the Kremlin; that all the carriages are broken as well as the wheels of the caissons.

When these expeditions are made, that the fire will be in several places of the Kremlin, the Duke of Treviso will leave the Kremlin, and will go on the road to Mojaisk. At four o'clock, the artillery officer charged with this task will blow up the Kremlin as the artillery has received the order.

On his way, he will burn all the carriages that would have remained behind, will as much as possible bury all the corpses and Bet all the rifles that he could meet. Arrived at the Galitzine palace, he will take the Spaniards and the Bavarians who are there, will set fire to the caissons and all that can not be transported. He will pick up all the postmasters and replicate the garrisons.

He will arrive at Mojaisk on the 25th or 26th. He will receive later orders to communicate with the army. It will, of course, leave a strong vanguard of cavalry on the road to Mojaisk.

He will be careful to stay in Moscow until he sees the Kremlin jump. He will take care to set fire to the two houses of the former governor and that of Razournovsky.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. If there are still some officers in hospitals, let them[278]

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take on the caissons; He must also search the hospitals to see all that can be taken away, and make inquiries to remove the isolated and straggled men who might still be there.

That on the 21st and the 22nd he should hold a great deal of cavalry on the route of Desna, in order to maintain his communications against the Cossacks. Let him set up a rearguard at three or four leagues to prevent him from returning to Moscow, sick or otherwise.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19293. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT TROITSKOYE.

Troitskoye, October 20, 1812.

Cousin, order General Roguet to go with the headquarters two leagues before arriving at Desna, and to send an aide-de-camp to report this evening. He will take care not to let anyone on the way, and not let any isolated or wounded man go to Moscow; he will pick up and consign everyone; he will set fire to all the carts and sails that remain on the road, and at last he will look upon himself as the rear guard of the army, and will make all that he encounters pass before him. Charge the Division General who commands the bridges to mend all the bridges, to facilitate the passage of the Desna, and to do this operation from here to the headquarters.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19294. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT TROITSKOYE.

Troïtskoïé. October 20, 1812.

My Cousin, order Marshal Ney to be in the vanguard and take a position on the Motcha. It will leave all its useless objects and its reserve parks, so as to lead easily to the Chechkova road to Ojigovo. Order Prince Eckmühl to carry the head of his corps here today and his tail to Desua. Let each of these marshals know that Moscow may be abandoned on the evening of the 2nd.

Order Prince Poniatowski to send his sick and wounded and all his embarrassments by Tashirovo and Ojigovo to Fominskiya;[279]

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as soon as the Duke of Elchingen has replaced him, he will begin his movement and will be under the orders of the Viceroy, to whom he will send for orders. All his sick and wounded, as soon as he is at Fominskiya, must go to Mojaisk, and his whole corps will support the viceroy's movements.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19295. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY

Troitskoye, October 20, 1812,

My son, I send my order officer Christin to bring me information about the cross-road that you are going to take from Chechkova to Ojigovo. It is necessary to activate your sappers, to make bridges where it will be necessary; it will take several on small ravines, Send an engineer officer to General Broussier; let him go there with diligence and let me know the roads from Fominskiya to Mojaisk and from Fominskiya to Kubinskoye. As soon as you have passed, Prince Poniatowski will proceed from Chechkova to Fominskiya; he will be under your orders, but it is necessary that all his useless baggage, he makes them slip on Mojaisk, That will always form an increase of 5,000 to 6,000 men. It will not be returned until tomorrow 21.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S, A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19296. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KRASNOIE,

Krasnoye, October 21, 1812.

Cousin, let the Duke of Treviso know that as soon as his Moscow operation is over, that is to say on the 23rd, at three o'clock in the morning, he sets off and arrives on the 24th at Kubinskoye, which, from this point, instead of going to Mojaisk, he has to go to Vereya, where he will be. He will serve as an intermediary between Mojaisk, where the Duke of Abrantes is, and Borovsk, where the army will be. It will be proper for him to send officers by Fominskiya to inform us of his march. He will lead with him the adjutant-commandant Bourmont, the Bavarians, and the Spaniards who are at the Galitzine house. All the Westphalians of the first post and the second, and all that he will find of Westphalians, he will bring them together[280]

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and will direct them to Mojaisk; if they were not enough, he would have their passage protected by cavalry.

The Duke of Treviso will inform the Duke d'Abrantes of his arrival at Vereya, and all that will be relative to the evacuation of Moscow. It is necessary that he write to us tomorrow 22, not by the road of Desna, but by the road of Charapova and Fominskiya. On the 23rd he will write us by the road to Mojaisk; his officer will leave the road at Kubinskoye to come to Fominskiya, the headquarters probably to be on the 23rd in Borovsk or Fominskiya. Either the Duke of Treviso will make his operation tomorrow, at three o'clock in the morning, or on the 23rd, at the same time, as I have told him since, he must make the same arrangements. By this means the Duke of Treviso may be considered as the rear guard of the army.

I can not recommend to him to load on the young Guard's carriages, on those of the cavalry on foot, and on all those found, the men who would remain at the hospitals. The Romans gave civic crowns to those who saved citizens; the Marshal Duke of Treviso will deserve as much as he will save soldiers. Tell him that he must bring them up to his horses and those of his whole world; that this is how the Emperor did at St. Jean d'Acre; that he must all the more take this measure, as soon as this convoy has rejoined the army, it will be found to give him the horses and the carriages which consumption has rendered useless; that the Emperor hopes that he will have to testify his satisfaction to the Marshal Duke of Treviso, for having saved him 500 men; that he ought, of course, to begin with the officers, then the non-commissioned officers, and to prefer the French; that he assemble all the generals and officers under his command, to make them feel the importance of this measure and how much they deserve from the Emperor to have saved 500 men.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19297. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT KRASNOIE.

Krasnoye, October 21, 1812.

Cousin, let the Duke of Elchingen know that he must form the rear guard of the army; that he will have for this purpose his augmented corps of the division Claparede, his two brigades of light cavalry, that of General Girardin; that the King of Naples has orders to send[281]

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today the divisions Friederichs and Friant to follow the movement of the army; that the Duke of Elchingen must raise the battalion and the battery which are in front; that if it can be done by day, he will have it done, or he will have it done at seven o'clock this evening; that he will take care that the enemy does not perceive anything and that nothing has changed before him.

The Morand division remains at Desna. This division will go tomorrow on the heights of Gorky, at the intersection of the road that leads to Founnskiya, and at noon, if there is nothing new, this division will continue its route to arrive as soon as possible to Fominskiya, leaving a battalion, at the bridge of Desna where is the brigade of General Colbert. All the king's cavalry will leave tomorrow at daybreak to join the army, which is on Borovsk. Tomorrow, the Duke of Elchingen will pass all his baggage, all his supplies of artillery and all that could embarrass him, on the route of Fominskiya by Tchcchkova, and will dispose so that the 23, one hour after At midnight, it can disappear without the enemy knowing anything about it and going for a long march, as much as possible, to reach Forninskiya.

Let the Duke of Elchingen know that on the 23rd, at three o'clock in the morning, the Kremlin must jump, that he will probably hear an explosion, and that Moscow will be evacuated; that the Duke of Treviso will go with his troops by the road of Mojaisk on Vercya; that General Colbert, who is at the bridge of Desna, and General Morand, who will be on the heights of Gorky tomorrow, must leave tomorrow afternoon, so as not to embarrass the road, and to go to Fominskiya. However, the Duke of Elchingen will have to make sure that there is no one left, so that by daybreak, on the 23rd, the Cossacks can go to Moscow without taking anyone. In the day of tomorrow 22, the Duke of Elchingen will beat patrols to pick up baggage, smugglers and isolated men. That all take the road to Borovsk. Arrived at Fominskiya, the Duke of Elchingen will receive orders. Tonight or tomorrow, we must occupy Borovsk; it will be necessary for the Duke of Elchingen to direct his march through this place, where the Emperor's headquarters will be that night, because a correspondence post will be dug there and the Duke of Elchingen will be able to find orders for it. The Duke of Elchingen will send an officer to-morrow at eight o'clock, to let him know if there is anything new.

NAPOLEON

According to the original Deposit of the war.[282]

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19298. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KRASNOIE.

Soltikof Castle, October 21, 1812.

Cousin, order General Colbert to send at least 200 horses to Moscow until they meet Colonel Deschamps' cavalry, and to be sure that the officer carrying important orders arrives at the Kremlin before nine o'clock in the evening. He will inform the Duke of Treviso that he is awaiting his answer, that it is necessary that he should have it before midnight. The Duke of Treviso will return by one of his officers, who will return with the party of 200 horses.

P. S. The party that General Colbert will send will return to Desna, whence he will send a fresh officer to carry the answer of the Duke of Treviseau to the Emperor's headquarters by Gorky and to the right on the Forninskiy's road.

General Colbert will take advantage of this party to clear the Moscow road, pick up the stragglers, burn the wagons behind them, and be certain that tomorrow 22, at seven o'clock in the morning, there is nothing left between Desna and Moscow.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19299. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN FOMINSKIVA.

Ianatovo Castle, October 22, 1812, seven o'clock in the morning.

My Son, I receive your letter. I will be before noon at Fominskiya with the Guard on horseback and on foot. The 1st reserve corps will arrive only an hour later. All the cavalry of the King of Naples will arrive there during the day. The Major General is telling you that first of all you have to occupy Vereya today. That Prince Poniatowski walks there with his corps; that he should be preceded by a vanguard of 500 to 600 men of cavalry, 1,000 infantry of his best marchers, and one or two batteries of light artillery; that they can do it today; that the rest of his body follows. Perhaps his riders alone will be enough to enter Vereya. That as soon as he was there he should communicate with Bogorodsk and Borisovo, where the Duke of Abrantes had fixed posts. Regardless of what this will establish immediately my communications with Mojaisk, I am in great need of receiving and sending couriers. You have a post of 100 men in Charapovo, you have to leave it there and send him there[283]

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a trusted officer who will place a horse halfway; he will stay there until midnight or three o'clock in the morning, when he must hear the explosion of the Kremlin. As soon as he hears it, he will come to the ground to instruct me; then the infantry and cavalry pickets will start to come to Fominskiya, where they will join their regiments. In any case, this detachment will start at five o'clock in the morning, tomorrow, October 23, 1812, if he does not hear the explosion. This officer, in order to hear the explosion better, will be able to carry a little forward with the cavalry picket that is there.

As for the detachment commanded by Adjutant Commander Bourmont at the Galitzine House, the Duke of Treviso was ordered to collect it by the way. As the enemy thinks he still has the whole army before him on the other road, it is fitting that you do not show too many troops, and only what is necessary to enlighten and hear news. The occupation of Vereya is the big business of today.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19300. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT FOMINSKIVA.

Fominskiya, October 22, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Elchingen that there is nothing new here; that the Viceroy march on Borovsk, where he must have arrived at the present time; that the whole army is on Fominskiya, but that the rain this morning has made the roads a little difficult; that, if it is possible, it will be useful to maintain control of the outlet of Gorky, or a little lower, all the day of tomorrow. Light cavalry, a battery of artillery, and some companies of voltigeurs would appear sufficient to maintain, if the enemy made no movement, the four or five pulks of Cossacks who would come in gratitude; that it will not be necessary, in the day of tomorrow, to exceed the half-way of in Ire the two roads, that is to say the village where slept the marshal Davout, in order to give the time to the luggage of to run away, and to save many men who always remain behind; that the cross-road which joins the main road having three or four outlets, it will be necessary to occupy them.

Send him a sketch of the road followed by the army.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[284]

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19301. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN FOMINSKIYA.

Fominskiya, October 23, 1812.

Cousin, write to Prince Poniatowski that the viceroy entered Borovsk yesterday; that he must therefore communicate with him. Write to the Duke of Elchingen that we entered Borovsk yesterday, that he must have received my instructions on his march today; that it is necessary that he leave nothing behind him; that all the information received yesterday, that the enemy was still before him in his former positions.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original, War Depot.

19802. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN FOMINSKIYA

Fominskiya, October 23, 1812.

Cousin, write to Prince Poniatowski that all the regiments of infantry, cavalry, artillery batteries, and other articles which the Duke of Abrantes will send to Vereya, will be under his orders, and that, when he has an order of movement, he must leave nothing, but take everything with him until he rejoins the army. Also let him know that he must not send his wounded and sick to Mojaisk, which would encumber this road, which is already too much; it is better that he lead them with him.

Write to General Teste, who commands at Viazma, a letter which you will send through the officer whom you send to Prince Poniatowski, and which he will send to the Duke of Abrantes to transmit it. In this letter you will inform General Teste that the intention of the Emperor is that General Evers, with a column of 3 to 4,000 men, infantry, cavalry, artillery, especially taking the regiments of march that would join the Army, goes from Viazma to Youkhnof, eighteen leagues from Viazma, and from there pushes posts to the intersection of these roads at Znamenskoye. This general will take with him the couriers who have arrived from Smolensk. He will place at each post, that is to say, Sosova, Trofimova and Andriéyenki, detachments of 100 infantrymen and a cavalry picket, under the command of a commander of the place, who will entrench themselves in houses to be safe from Cossacks and peasants. Send to[285]

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General Teste to write to Smolensk to make known that the army is heading to Kaluga, and from there will take its line of operation on Velnia. Order General Teste to detain all the estafettes that should pass, to direct them from Viazma to Youkhuof, where it is probable that the junction will be made very quickly, that is, from the 25th to the 27th.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war,

19303. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN FOMINSKIVA.

Borovsk, October 23, 1812, seven-thirty in the evening,

My Son, much information would lead one to think that the enemy is still today in his former position of his entrenched camp, at the mouth of Istia in the Nara. He would have been afraid of being shot by Fominskiyn and sent a column of infantry and cavalry to enlighten the march of the French divisions. This column would have followed the movement of the army and would be placed that night on the edge of the woods, between Borovsk and his camp, about two leagues from the river, in order to stop the movements of our army and to prevent the enemy army, if we turned it while walking on it. If it were so, it would be only this night, when the small town that General Delzons is to occupy would be, that the enemy will be able to think that instead of turning his position to attack it we are walking right on Kaluga . It is necessary that General Delzons, as soon as he becomes master of that little town, light up on his left. It is even necessary that you illuminate much on your left, and that you realize to me early tomorrow morning, of what you will have seen. It will be necessary, for this purpose, to send on your left of strong recognitions one hour before the day. We are here, from General Delzons to Forninskiya, facing the enemy. I would be glad if General Delzons seized this night of the little town. You can instruct him that if he hears a big cannonade, he should return to take part in the battle. If the enemy shows fires, have them watch tonight (1).

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

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1) His Majesty, having dictated this letter by going to bed, ordered that it be sent without his signature, Signed Baron FAIN. (Note of the copy.)[286]

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19304. - 26th - BULLETIN OF THE GREAT ARMY (1).

Borovsk, December 23, 1812.

After the battle of the Moskva, General Kontouzof took a position a league ahead of Moscow; he had established several redoubts to defend the city; he sat there, hoping to impose it until the last moment. On the 14th of September, having seen the French army march to him, he made up his mind and evacuated the position through Moscow. He crossed this city with his general quarter at nine o'clock in the morning. Black Vanguard crossed it at one o'clock in the afternoon.

The commander of the Russian rearguard demanded that he be allowed to march through the city without firing; but in the Kremlin the rabble, armed by the governor, resisted and was dispersed at once. 10,000 Russian soldiers were the next day and the next days picked up in the city, where they were scattered by the lure of looting; they were old and good soldiers: they increased the number of prisoners.

On the 15th, 16th and 17th of September, the Russian rearguard general said that one would no longer fire and that one would not fight again, and spoke a lot of peace. He took the road to Kolomna, and our vanguard placed himself five leagues from Moscow at the bridge of the Moskva. Meanwhile, the Russian army left the Kolomna road and took the Kaluga road through the crossing. He did so half the tour of the city, six leagues distant. The wind carried swirls of flames and smoke. This march, according to the Russian officers, was dark and religious. The consternation was in the souls: it is asserted that officers and soldiers were so penetrated, that the greatest silence reigned throughout the army, as in prayer.

The march of the enemy was soon perceived.

The Duke of Istria turned to Desna with a corps of observation.

The King of Naples followed the enemy first to Podolsk, and then went to his rear, threatening to cut off Kaluga's wheel. Although the King had only the vanguard with him, the enemy gave himself only time to evacuate the entrenchments he had made, and advanced six leagues backwards, after a glorious struggle for the avant-garde. Prince Poniatowski took position behind the Nara, at the confluence of Istia.

1) See, on the *Bulletins of the Grande* Armée, a note inserted in volume XXIII, P. 520, of the *Correspondence*.[287]

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General Lauriston, who had to go to the Russian headquarters on October 5, made communications between our outposts and those of the enemy, who agreed that they should not attack each other without warning three hours in advance; but on the 18th, at seven o'clock in the morning, 4,000 Cossacks came out of a wood lying within the range of General Sebastiani's cannon forming the extreme left of the vanguard, and which had neither been occupied nor illuminated. that day. They made a bargain on this light cavalry while he was walking the flour mill. This light cavalry could form only a quarter of a league further. However, the enemy penetrating this gap, a park of twelve pieces of cannon and twenty boxes of General Sebastiani was taken in a ravine, with luggage wagons numbering 30, in all 65 wagons, instead of 100 that they had been featured in the last bulletin.

At the same time, the enemy's regular cavalry and two columns of infantry were entering the pit; they were hoping to win the Voronovo parade and wood before us. But the king of Naples was there; he was on horseback, he marched and pushed the Russian line cavalry in ten or twelve different loads. He saw the division of six enemy battalions commanded by Lieutenant General Müller, charge him, and sink him. This division was massacred. Lieutenant General Müller was killed.

While this was happening, Prince Poniatowski successfully pushed back a Russian division. Polish general Fischer was shot dead.

Not only has the enemy suffered a loss greater than ours, but he is ashamed to have violated a vanguard truce, which is almost never seen. Our loss amounts to 800 men killed, wounded taken; that of the enemy is twofold. Several Russian officers were taken; two of their generals were killed. The King of Naples, on this day, showed what the presence of mind, value, and habit of war can do. In general, throughout the campaign, this prince has proven himself worthy of his highest rank.

However, the Emperor, forcing the enemy to evacuate his retreated camp and throw him back several steps, so that he could quietly take over the countries chosen for his winter quarters, and now required to occupy the execution of his later projects, on the 17th, he had ordered General Lauriston to his vanguard to place himself behind the Vinkovo parade, so that his movements could not be seen.[288]

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Since Moscow had ceased to exist, the Emperor had planned or abandoned this pile of rubble, or occupied only the Kremlin with 3,000 men; but the Kremlin, after a fortnight's work, was not deemed strong enough to be abandoned for twenty or thirty days to its own forces. He would have weakened and hindered the army in its movements without giving a great advantage. If one wanted to keep Moscow from beggars and looters, 20,000 men were needed. Moscow is today an unhealthy and impure sewer. A population of 200,000 souls wandering in the neighboring woods, starving, comes to its rubble to look for some debris and some vegetables from the gardens to live. It seemed unnecessary to compromise anything for an object that was of no military importance, and which today has become of no political importance.

All the shops in the city were carefully discovered, the others evacuated, the Emperor mined the Kremlin. The Duke of Treviso made him jump on the 23rd, at two in the morning. The arsenal, the barracks, the shops, everything was destroyed. This ancient citadel, which dates from the foundation of the monarchy, this first palace of the Tsars, were!

The Duke of Treviso started for Vereya. The camp aid of Russian emperor Winzingerode, who wanted to drill on the 22nd in the head of 500 Cossacks, was pushed back and taken prisoner with a young Russian officer named Nariskine,

The headquarters were brought to the castle of Troitskoye on the 19th; he stayed there on the 20th. He was in Ignatovo on the 21st; the 22nd in Fominskiya, with the whole army doing two: flank walks, and the 23rd in Borovsk.

The Emperor intends to start on the 24th to win the Dvina, and to take a position that brings him closer to eighty leagues from Petersburg and Vilnius, a double advantage, that is, closer to twenty steps and purpose.

Of the 4,000 stone houses that existed in Moscow, only 200 remained; it was said that a quarter remained, because there were 800 churches; still part of it is damaged. Of the 8,000 wooden houses, there were about 500 left. The Emperor was proposed to burn the east of the city to serve the Russians as they see fit, and to extend this measure around Moscow; there are 2,000 villages and as many country houses or castles. Where he proposes to form four columns of 2,000 men each, and to charge them to burn all twenty leagues round. This will teach the Russians, it was said, to make war in order and[289]

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not in Tartars; if they burn a village, a house, they must be answered by burning a hundred. The Emperor refused these measures, which would have aggravated so much the misfortunes of this population. Of the 9,000 proprietors they would have burnt castles, perhaps 100 are followers of the Marat of Russia; but 8,900 are good people already too much victims of the intrigue of some wretches. To punish 100 guilty, we would have ruined 8,900. It must be added that 200,000 poor innocent serfs would have been absolutely destitute of all this. The Emperor, therefore, contented himself with ordering the destruction of the citadels and military establishments according to the custom of the war, without doing anything to the detriment of private persons, already too unhappy by the consequences of this war.

The inhabitants of Russia do not come back from the weather they have been doing for twenty days. It's the sun and the beautiful days of Fontainebleau's trip. The army is in an extremely rich country, and can be compared to the best of France and Germany.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of November 16, 1812.

19305. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT BOROVSK.

Borovsk, October 24, 1812.

My Cousin, write to the Duke of Bellune in figures, since he will not receive this letter before the 26th and then he will have seen General Nansouty. Let him know that, being always without a courier, I do not know the last state of things on his side; that I do not know if the events have forced him to a few movements, but that, in the event that he would have done none and that the division Girard would still be available, as well as the brigade of light cavalry, I would wish that he immediately set out with his troops to come to Yelnia and from there to push on Kaluga's route to meet with the army, in order to join us; if it can start on the 26th, it could be the 30th at five Kaluga marches, that I establish my line of operation first by Viazma, Youkbnof and Znamenskoye until our junction is made with him; that then I will establish it by Smolensk and Yelnia; that by traversing thus forty leagues it is necessary that he be careful to organize this part of the road by placing at each post a commander of arms, a detachment of 100 men and a relay for the relays; that this must not, however, affect the party he would have to take if something extraordinary happened.[290]

Add to the Duke of Bellune, in clear, that the army is assembled at Borovsk; that Moscow was evacuated, after having blown up the Kremlin, and that the army is moving towards Kaluga; that the province of Kaluga is one of the most abundant lines of Russia, and that in fact we are here in a great abundance of everything.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19306. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BOROVSK

Borovsk, October 26, 1812,

Tell Prince Eckmühl that Prince Poniatowski is at Egorevskoye; that it was necessary there to keep the outlet which comes from Medyne to Vereya; that he must leave at the same moment that the prince of Eckmühl will leave Vereya; that he will go to Mojaisk in a straight line; that his march must be calculated so as to reach Mojaisk before the Prince of Eckmuhl.

Order Prince Poniatowski to send an officer to the Prince of Eckmühl and receive his orders for his movement.

Make it clear to Prince Poniatowski that it will be advisable for him to disappear from the Cossacks by night, and regulate his march so as to reach Mojaisk before the Prince of Eckmuhl.

Also instruct the viceroy of the position of Prince Poniatowski and all the movements.

According to the minute. Deposit of the war.

19307. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT BOROVSK.

Borovsk, October 26, 1812.

Cousin, send an official immediately to Prince Poniatowski, with orders to have his baggage promptly taken to Mojaisk, and thence to Viazma, and to take with his corps a good position three or four leagues from Vereya, on the road from Vereya to Egorevskoye, taking his vanguard to this last place, which is at the junction of the road from Medyne to Mojaisk. When it's time to go from there to Mojaisk, I want him to be able to do that in a day. He will understand that his purpose is to cover the march of the army. He will leave under the orders of the Duke of Treviso all the French marching regiments he would have.[291]

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Write to the Duke of Abrantes for him, to make known that the Russian army had gone to Malo-Yarosluvetz, that his vanguard arrived there on one bank at the same time as our vanguard arrived on the other. the city is situated on the bank of the enemy and in a very elevated position, which gave rise to a fight which lasted all the day of the 24th; that while our vanguard was supporting this fight, the whole Russian army arrived; that, on our side, troops of the Prince d'Eckmühl have arrived to the aid of the viceroy; that we have remained masters of the battlefield; that the enemy has lost 7 to 8,000 men; our loss is 2,000 killed and wounded; General Delzons was killed; we have found the corpses of two Russian generals; 250 to 300 prisoners remained in our hands. Also write that the 25th the Army took position; the Russian army was opposite, a league behind Mul-Yaroslavetz; that we were walking on the 26th to attack him. but that she was retired; that the prince of Eckmühl followed him; but that the cold and the necessity of getting rid of the wounded who are with the army decided the Emperor to go to Mojaisk, and thence to Viazma; that it is therefore necessary for him to write immediately to the commander of Viazma so that the detachment sent to Youkhnof should be recalled; that the enemy infantry, since the battle of the Moskva, is extremely diminished; that it does not consist of 15,000 old soldiers; but that he recruited their Cossacks, and that this cavalry, little dangerous in reality, tires much,

Recommend to the Duke d'Abrantes to take care that he does not speak of wagons without taking wounded or sick; to prepare for a movement which, as soon as it is replaced, will speak it on Viazma. Inform him that the Duke of Elchingen has taken a side-road to carry himself here also to Viazrna; finally, that he should do all that he can, and that he write to the commander of Viazma so that the road is well guarded and that it is easy to communicate.

Write to the Duke of Bellune nearly the same thing about combat, and, in numerical terms, that the intention of the Emperor is to attack Viazma; that the movement on Yelnia, if it has been done, will have been useful, and that we must send to our meeting on Viazma the most food we can and will bring from Yelnia to Dorogoboujo what would have been gathered and headed on Yelnia.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.[292]

19308. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VEREYA.

Vereya, October 28, 1812.

Cousin, reiterate the order to General Marchand, who is now leaving Mojaisk, to have all the sick and wounded who are at the abbey charged, using all the carriages and wagons for that purpose, without distinction. Give orders to the General Staff for this purpose. I order the grand equerry to take at least a hundred in my luggage.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19309. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY IN GHJATSK

Chjatsk, October 30, 1812.

Cousin, the headquarters will leave today at two o'clock in the afternoon to go to Velitchevo, four hours from here. The Duke of Istria will receive the order to send 500 horses of the Guard. The Duke of Treviso will be returned with his whole corps. The Duke d'Abrantes will receive orders to go beyond this place and go to bivouac at the post office. The crews of the big and the small headquarters will go as far as they can. The Duke of Elchingen will go between Ghjatsk and Velitchevo.

The division of the old Guard will remain here all day to rally and will take four days of food on its caissons.

General Lauer and the gendarmerie will be responsible for evacuating in the day the wounded and sick who are in Ghjatsk.

The 2nd and 4th Cavalry Corps will take up positions around Ghjatsk, keeping one to the left and the other to the right of the road to protect luggage and communication.

The Roguet division will join an old Guard today in Gbjalsk, and will also take its food.

General Sebastiani and General Latour-Maubourg will send an officer to the Duke of Danzig to inform him of the position they will take tonight; this officer will remain with the marshal, so that, if the road was disturbed, or if these corps needed to be supported, he would order them to come and take a stand near him.

The Viceroy will be informed of these arrangements and of the place where I shall have my headquarters, so that the Duke of Danzig may have sufficient strength to protect everything.

Tomorrow, if there is nothing new, the Guard will walk.[293]

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The old Guard will leave at five o'clock in the morning; Boguet's division will not leave until the troops of either the viceroy or the prince of Eckmühl are at Ghjatsk. The two cavalry corps will march, one on the right, the other on the left, on Viazma, to arrive there the day after tomorrow.

The General of Artillery, the Engineer, the Intendant General, the Authorizing Officer and all that belongs to the Headquarters shall receive orders as a result of these provisions,

From unsigned original, War Repository.

19310. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VIAZMA.

Viazma, November 1st, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Charpentier that the 8th corps will be tomorrow at Dorogobouje, where will be the day after tomorrow the headquarters; it is necessary that it strengthens all communication posts, so that communications are free and correspondence is rapid. Tell him that all food, bread, biscuit, flour, oxen, brandy, etc., should be sent to Dorogobonje; He will also be in charge of all the caissons loaded with food that could arrive, as well as those that could have been sent to Yelnia. We will need much sustenance to Dorogoboujc.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19311. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Uiazma, November 2, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, write to Baron Reinhard so that he will make the King feel how ridiculous it is to transform the main Protestant church of Cassel into a Catholic church; that it is very dangerous to touch the subjects of religion, and that this only makes the people feel worse; that Cassel being a Protestant city, we must leave the Protestants alone. If the words were not enough, Baron Reinhard would give a note to show my dissatisfaction with a measure as untimely and so contrary to politics.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[294]

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19312. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT VIAZMA.

Viazma, November 2, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Reggio, whom I have learned with the greatest satisfaction that his wound was cured and that he was in the case of returning to service; that, consequently, it is my intention that he return to the 2nd corps to take the command.

Tell the Duke de Bellune that I am learning of the events at Polotsk, and his progress on this side, that I hope he will have repulsed Wittgenstein and recaptured Polotsk.

Write to him, in numerical terms, that the army is marching, as I have already informed them, finding that winter was too long to pass it far from my flanks; that it is probable that I will carry my right on the Dvina and the left on the Borysthenes, and that by that we will find ourselves in contact.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19313. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Semlevo, November 3, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I receive your letters of October 29th. It would be necessary, in the market which you concluded for flours, to make pay 10,000 quintals to Vitebsk and 10,000 to Smolensk. It is important to have so many in Polotsk. Special markets can provide for it. Urge shop training and delivery of everything the country needs. I approve of the action you have taken in relation to the transportation of Minsk's food. The weather continues to be very beautiful here, which is extremely favorable.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19311. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Slavkovo, November 3, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, the number of cavalry men on foot. It is even more important than that which has been sent to General Bourcier, I say to him. One must buy horses as much as possible, but above all, do as fast as you can.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duc de Bassano.[295]

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19315. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA,

Slavkovo, November 3, 1812,

The Duke of Bassano, the Minister of War announces that 290 mills left Paris on October 5th. When you read this letter we will be on November 5th; these mills must have arrived in Vilna, I look forward to the news of their arrival. We have no notice of the arrival at Smolensk of the first two convoys of mills, which, however, have been spent a month and a fortnight in Vilna.

I have no news of the Duke of Bellune; I hope to receive it tomorrow in Dorogobouje.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19316. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SLAVKOVO.

Slavkovo, November 3, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Elchingen that as soon as he takes command of the rearguard he will send the army as quickly as possible, for the rest of the fine weather is thus used without walking. The Prince of Eckmuhl retains the Viceroy and Prince Poniatowski for every charge of Cossacks whom he perceives.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19317, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SLAVKOVO.

Slavkovo, November 3, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the 127th, 128th and 129th battalions, which are at Stettin, to go to Danzig, Order the two battalions of the 29th which are at Erfurt, the 3rd battalion of the 3rd regiment and the 3rd battalion of 105th, who are also in Erfurt, to also go to Danzig.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19318. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SLAVKOVO,

Slavkovo, November 3, 1812,

My Cousin, order that the Westphalian brigade that had[296]

been made available to the Duke of Castiglione be returned to the King; it is necessary for him to complete his quota.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19319. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTHE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Slavkovo, November 3, 1812,

Duke de Feltre, I reply to your letter of October 3, The cohort of national guards of the 32nd military division will be part of the cohort brigade which is in the 32nd division, and which, I believe, is composed only of 5 cohorts; thus this brigade will be composed of 6 cohorts.

Regardless of this brigade or these 6 cohorts, 6 more cohorts are needed in the 32nd Division, which will be 12; as for the 31st division, that is to say, Groningen, you can detach there 2 cohorts of the brigades which are in Holland; this has nothing in common with the 12 cohorts of the 32nd division.

The 12 cohorts of the 32 'division must all be composed of old French, except the cohort of the country.

My intention is that the brigade generals in charge of the cohorts never change.

General Saint-Cyr will therefore have under his command 12 cohorts, which he will place in Lübeck, Hamburg and Bremen.

The general commanding the 31st division will have 2 or 3 cohorts of those intended for the defense of Holland; but it is a separate system, and I do not approve that in your letter of the 3rd you should bring together the 32nd and the 31st divisions; it has nothing in common.

In the first state of situation of the cohorts, tell me which departments are the cohorts, because it is for me a great object of consideration.

I think I explained to you that we should not send conscripts from one department to another to complete the cohorts; the cohorts are essentially departmental, and their primitive organization must always be maintained. I'm afraid the director of conscription did not understand this well.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.[297]

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19320. – ORDER OF THE DAY (1)

Slavkovo, November 4, 1812.

The will of the Emperor is, if the enemy infantry follows the army in its movement, to march to meet it, to attack it, to overthrow it, and to make it partly a prisoner; For this purpose, the Emperor chose an intermediate position between the Slavkovo post office and Dorogobouje. The Emperor will be at this position tomorrow at break of day with his Guard; His Majesty will designate the location of the troops to be massaged and hid so as to be covered by the rear guard, commanded by the Duke of Elchingen, and to be able to lead to the enemy with all the when the latter thinks he is dealing only with the rear-guard, and goes to meet him.

Messrs. the marshals will take the measures for the absent soldiers to join the flags, for each division to have its artillery, for the baggage to pass on Dorogobouje and Smolensk. Gendarmes of the line and elite will be placed at Dorogobouje to join all the isolated men; except the sick. The Duke d'Abrantes will be ready to go with his corps, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, to the first order, and send for this purpose an officer of con gance to the Major General.

All the men on horseback who are on foot and who form the regiments under the orders of General Charriere will be assembled and reformed at Dorogobouje, so that these regiments are ready to have the honor of marching with the grenadiers, forming a particular brigade. under the orders of General Charrière. The reserves of artillery and engineering reserves, and in particular that of the Guards at the orders of General Sorbier, will be able to be able to reach the position designated above.

The commanders of the engineers and the artillery will be there, as well as the general Éblé; there will also be sappers, sailors and pontooners. The generals will hold hands that the arms are in good condition and that the soldiers have their cartridges.

His Majesty the King of Naples will go early tomorrow to the position to study it and receive the orders of the Emperor.

The Marshal Duke of Elchingen, making the rear guard, will maneuver according to the above dispositions, so that the enemy infantry may be attracted the day after tomorrow morning to the position, and that we may surprise her by a general attack done unexpectedly.

1) Although signed by the Major General, this agenda was dictated by the Emperor.[298]

The secretary of state, Count Daru, will act as Intendant General of the army, in the absence of General Count Dumas, who is ill. He will make his arrangements and take all the necessary measures to provide the health and ambulance service and that everything is returned and prepared on the position.

As a result of this order of the day, each one, without further order, will make all the arrangements with regard to it.

The Emperor awaits the report of what happened yesterday to fix his opinion: how was the enemy corps that ventured to cut communications between the French divisions not taken?

By order of the Emperor,

ALEXANDRE, Prince of Neuchâtel and Wagram.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19321. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SLAVKOVO.

Slavkovo, November 4, 1812,

Cousin, write to the Prince of Eckmühl that I do not take into account what has happened since he was the rear guard, especially in the day yesterday, and that this account is necessary for me to know the state of things.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original, War Depot,

19322. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOROGOBOUJE,

Dorogobouje, November 5, 1812, ten o'clock in the evening,

Cousin, give orders to the Viceroy to leave tomorrow morning, at five o'clock from the position he occupies, to cross the river and speak to Doukhovshchina. He will warn the Prince of Eckmühl, who will make no movement, so that the viceroy passes before him, The viceroy will send to his luggage, which had to park, the order to cross the bridge at three o'clock in the morning.

Order the Duke d'Abrantes to march seven or eight leagues from Smolensk, on the left bank of the Borysthenes, to about the highest point of the river on the Bielkino side, and to cut the road there. Yelnia by cavalry positions. He will, first of all, communicate with General Baraguey of Hilliers, to whom you will reiterate the orders to approach Smolensk. Finally you will order[299]

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to the Duke d'Abrantes to write by Smolensk at least every day.

Order the 5th Corps to sail tomorrow after the Viceroy, and to proceed with all speed to Smolensk; to send all his baggage and to gather all his isolated men. Order that all baggage continue their movement on Smolensk.

At two o'clock after midnight, when I have received news of the rear guard, I will give orders for the Duke of Treviso, for the Guard, for the cavalry, for the 1st and 3rd corps.

From unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19323. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dorogobouje, November, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, I see with discontent that the border of the Pyrenees is insulted by about fifty Spanish brigands. I had asked you to direct a brigade of cohorts of National Guards on this side; there are some in Poitou which are not very useful today. What are the national guards doing for the defense of the Pyrenees? Cohorts of national guards should not enter Spain, but only keep borders. Take steps to prevent these events from happening again.

NAPOLEON.

After the copy. Deposit of the war.

19324. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOROGOBOUJE.

Dorogobouje, November 6, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Prince of Eckmühl that, if this morning at nine o'clock, as all go to think, the rear-guard has before it only Cossacks and cavalry, and that its corps is, as I suppose it, without food, it is necessary that it should be ten or twelve leagues from Smolensk, on the road from Yelnia to Smolensk, in three days, and following the road whose course is enclosed; he will find guides here. His luggage and a division to escort them will follow the Smolensk route. It would be necessary for him to make at least four leagues in the day of today, and to do so seven and seven days hence tomorrow would be eighteen leagues, and twenty-eight leagues long from here to Smolensk by the road that we trace him, he does not[300]

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would be only ten leagues from Smolensk. Depending on the locality, it may be two leagues farther or near Smolensk; it will be confined there, if there is nothing new, and I will receive its reports at Smolensk the day after tomorrow. The Duke d'Abrantes has followed a similar road, and must be six or seven leagues from Smolensk to the bend of the river. General Baraguey Hilliers, who was in Velnia, had to leave this morning and make the same move to get closer to Smolensk. They say the country is beautiful and has a lot of food. He will put himself in correspondence with these different corps, and this movement will be all the more advantageous because there is no fodder in Smolensk and he could receive his luggage there, stay a few days in cantonment, receive his detachments, who are with General Baraguey d'Hilliers, and then leave from there to take his quarters.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Give the order to the two brigades of the light cavalry of the 1st corps which are with the duke of Elchingen to join the prince of Eckmühl.

According to original. Deposit of the war.

19325. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOROGOBOUJE.

Dorogobouje, November 6, 1812.

Write to the Viceroy that he should arrive at Doukhovshchina as soon as possible, and send a column of infantry and cavalry midway at once to communicate with Smolensk. He will be able to give news of the subsequent movements of the enemy; he will push cavalry stations as far as Stobna, in order to have promptly news, and that I may send him orders, according to the circumstances, to bring him to Smolensk or Vitebsk, which will depend on news that I have subsequent movements that the enemy will have made in three days, and what will have happened on the Dvina.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.[301]

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19326. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MIKAILOVKA.

Mikhailovka, November 7, 1812.

My cousin, write to the Duke de Bellune the following letter:

In Clear:

"I have put your letter of the 2nd under the eyes of the Emperor; His Majesty orders that you unite your six divisions, and that you approach the enemy without delay, and push him beyond the Dvina; that you take back Polotsk. "

In number:

(You must have received this figure from General Nansouty.)

"This movement is most important. In a few days your rear can be flooded with Cossacks; the army and the Emperor will be at Smolensk tomorrow, but very tired by a march of 120 leagues without stopping. Take the offensive, the salvation of the armies depends on it; every day of delay is a calamity. The cavalry of the army is on foot, the cold has killed all the horses. Walk, it is the order of the Emperor and that of the necessity. "

Send this letter to General Charpentier by the courier who will leave in an hour; he will send it by an officer to the Duke de Bellune.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of your war.

19327. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MIKAILOVKA.

Mikhailovka. November 7, 1812.

Cousin, write to General Charpentier that the Emperor will be tomorrow or after at Smolensk; that the viceroy will be on the 8th at Doukhovchtchioa; that it is necessary to direct the Poles on the road to Mohilef, four or six leagues from the city, without letting them enter the city; that the cavalry must be led on foot three leagues from Smolensk, in the same direction; let him make known the cantonments that provisionally can take the 1st corps, the 8th and the Guard, without entering the city, where the artillery and mounted cavalry are carried. Designate me places on the one and the first bank near the fodder.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[302]

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19328. - ORDER.

Smolensk, November 9, 1812.

TITLE 1.

ART. 1. An active corps of 6,000 men of cavalry, composed of a division of light cavalry and a division of cuirassiers and dragoons, will be formed, which will be intended to cover the cantonments of the army during the winter.

ART. 2. Major General Bruyère will have the command of the light cavalry, the general of division .... (1) will have that of the division of heavy cavalry; General Latour-Maubourg will command this corps.

ART. 3. This corps will be composed of all the available men, selected from among the oldest, of the four corps of cavalry, and it will proceed to its formation in the following way.

TITLE II.

ART. 1. The division of light cavalry will be composed of four regiments called regiments of pickets, which will be formed: the first with the mounted men of the 1st division - light cavalry; it will bear the name of Regiment- pickets No. 1; each of the seven regiments of this division will furnish a company composed of a captain, a lieutenant, two sub-lieutenants, a chief quartermaster, two marshals of the lodgings, a brigadier- quartermaster, two brigadiers, two trumpets, sixty cavalry; total, seventy-two.

Those of those regiments who could not furnish this number, will have to complete it as soon as men come up; those of the regiments which could furnish more than seventy-two men will form two companies; those who can supply more than one hundred and twenty men will form three.

ART. 2. The companies of the three brigades of the light cavalry division will thus form at least three squadrons for the 1st regiment-piquet; the general of division will appoint a colonel, two squadron chiefs, one adjutant-major, and two non-commissioned warrant officers to command him.

ART. 3. The 2nd Light Cavalry Regiment will be formed in the same manner by the 2nd Light Cavalry Division.

ART. 4. The 3rd regiment- pickets will be formed by the 3rd division.

1 Gap in the text.[303]

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ART. 5. The 4th Rifle Regiment will be formed by the 4th Division.

ART. 6. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Light Horse Regiments will each form as many companies as will have sixty and twelve men assembled, and will form as many Regiments as there will be four times. Squadrons, they will be numbered our 5th and next picket regiments, and will form the 4th Brigade of the active light division.

ART. 7. The King of Naples will designate four brigadier generals, taken in the four light cavalry divisions, to serve there. The division general will appoint a colonel, two squadron chiefs, etc., by regiment, as stated for the first, art. 2 of Title 1.

TITLE III.

ART. 1st. The 1st and 2nd Cavalry Divisions, each composed of three regiments, will form a company or a squadron according to their strength and form the 1st regiment-picket regiment.

The 2nd and 4th divisions will form the 2nd regiment-picket, the four 6th dragon regiments will form the 3rd regiment-picket, and the four regiments of the 7' division will form the 4th regiment-picket.

ART. 2. They shall be trained in the manner prescribed for light cavalry.

ART. 3. The King of Naples shall designate two brigadier generals, taken from those presently employed in the large cavalry divisions, to command each two regiment pickets; the division general will designate the same number of senior officers as the light cavalry regiments by regiment.

ART. 4. All detachments belonging to the regiments or marching squads, under the command of Generals Evers and Baraguey de Hilliers, shall be incorporated immediately into the picket regiments.

TITLE IV.

ART. 1st. All companies or squadrons that will be supplied to the picket regiments will be treated as detached and will continue to be part of their respective regiments.

ART. 2. Colonels shall ensure that the upholstery, clothing and armament of the detachment companies are in the best condition possible.

ART. 3. This active cavalry corps should be kept as full as possible; as an officer, non-commissioned officer and[304]

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a knight will become ill or injured, his regiment will replace him without delay.

ART. 4. After this operation is completed, the four cavalry corps will move to carry all the men on foot and small deposits in the winter cantonments, and the shattered horses below the Dnieper will join their regiments; men on foot will have cartridges and march with officers, as a rule, to defend themselves against enemy parties and defend their cantonments.

ART. 5. All marching regiments, detachments of small depots, which would come from the rear, will be directed to their regiments; it is only from here that they will leave to supplement or increase, if necessary, the active corps, until the time when, by the arrival of the ascending horses, each regiment can have from 3 to 400 men to campaign, a time when everything will return to the primitive order.

NAPOLÉON.

According to the original. Deposit of war.

19329. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, November 9, 1812.

My Cousin, it is necessary for tomorrow's day to be used to gather. As a result, you will want to order the 5th Corps, Cavalry, Infantry, Artillery and Luggage, to carry two leagues, at most three leagues, on the way to Mstislavl, where the whole corps will gather Staff and regimental officers will remain on the bridge to direct wagons, corps parts and isolated men to the corps meeting place.

The 8th Corps will move between Smolensk and Drozjino's post, infantry, cavalry, etc., and take the same precaution of holding officers on the bridge to lead the men.

All the artillery of the Guard and the general artillery belonging to the General Park will meet in a village one or two leagues on the Krasuoi Road. The Engineering Park will meet with the Artillery Park on the Krasnoi Road.

The four cavalry corps will meet in four villages, one or two leagues from Smolensk; generals, artillery, administration, all will gather in these villages. The generals will send their staff officers to the bridge; the colonels will send officers there[305]

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to pick up all the isolated men. The regiment of isolated men of cavalry of General Charrière will consequently be dissolved. The men on foot belonging to the brigades attached to the 1st and 3rd Army Corps will meet with the 4th Cavalry Corps in the village that is intended for him. All that belongs to the 4th Corps, commanded by the Viceroy, may meet on the right bank and so as not to impede the circulation. The headquarters will enter Smolensk.

The whole corps of the Duke of Treviso; including the Claparede division and the Roguet division, will meet in the suburbs of Smoleask: the old Guard will meet in the city, so that after tomorrow all these rallied corps may die on the march. A village will be designated for the meeting of the military crews. The depot of the Guard on foot and on horseback will start tomorrow for Krasnoî,

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19330. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, November 10, 1812.

Cousin, send to the viceroy a staff officer, who will be escorted by some men of his corps, to inform him that he must arrive at Smolensk as soon as possible.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19331: - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, November 11, 1812.

Cousin, order that the corps of General Baraguey of Hilliers be dissolved, The 1,000 men of the Imperial Guard will join the Guard at daybreak tomorrow, The 1,565 men of the 1st corps will join the 1st corps. The 500 men of the 3rd corps will wait for Smolensk the passage of the 3rd corps. The 11th squadron, the 10th, the 9th, finally all the cavalry, will join their respective bodies in the day of tomorrow. The artillery will be sent to General Riboisière. Order General Baraguey of Hilliers to go and take the government of Konigsberg, in place of General Loison.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war.[306]

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19332. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk. November 11, 1812.

Cousin, write on the spot by the courier, and, if the courier has left, by a Polish officer, to General Dombrowski, whom he must, above all else, undertake to defend Minsk.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19333. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, A. SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, November 11, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the Heudelet division to set out to go to Danzig; it will be replaced by the Lagrange division. You will announce, moreover, that the 35th Division, commanded by General Grenier, will arrive from Italy in the course of December, and send the Duke of Castiglione to restore to Westphalia his mobile column, as well as to Saxony, so that These two powers have the means of recruiting their contingents, and order the 2,000 horses which are part of General Cavaignac's brigade to set out without delay to go to Elbing. You must have already given orders to the 127th battalions. and 128th to go to Danzig.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19334. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk. November 11, 1812.

Cousin, advise the governors of Minsk and Vilna not to employ against the enemy the regiments of marches, either cavalry or infantry; that it is destroying resources without profit; that these regiments are out of the state of fighting; that they may be arrested at Vilna or Minsk, for a few days, for the service of the place, and to number, but that it is a real folly to send them to the enemy; that they make me lose so many people, and that they take away the means of recruiting my cadres. Write at once to Krasnoi and Orcha, to keep the troops going to Smolensk; all the troops[307]

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who would be marching from here to Krasnoi must return to Krasnoi; those between Krasnoi and Orcha would return to Orcha.

Tell Prince Poniatowski that it is necessary for him to go with his army corps to Mohilef, that I let him master to take the road which he will believe the most direct or the best, with the exception from the main road of Krasnoi, which will be followed by the army, and which must not be too much embarrassed; that, when he arrives at Mohilef, he will seek to reorganize his corps, by assembling there some regiments of march which belong to him and which the governor of Minsk has retained; that after the first operation he will take care of tightening all his cadres in one division, and then the cadres who will be available, he will bring them back to Warsaw to take the men who are there and there complete; that he can leave tomorrow 12.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19335. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, November 12, 1812.

Cousin, answer General Bourcier that instead of 2,000 horses he would have to treat in Warsaw at least for 5,000 horses, including 1,000 of draft; that there are weapons of all kinds in Kovno and Vilna, that there must be some in Warsaw. Order the general of artillery to write to this effect to General Bourcier. Make known to General Bourcier that the depots of Lepel and Orcha have some effects of harnessing, but that men dismounted during the campaign, and since the departure of Moscow in bad weather, could not carry their stool, fault means of transport, and that number is very considerable; that I estimate that the orders must be of 30,000 horses, including 7 to 8,000 of lines and military crews.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19336. - TO M. MARET, DUCKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Smolensk. November 14, 1812,

The Duke of Bassano, I blow the walls of Smolensk, and I go to Orcha. Here we have 9 to 10 degrees of cold. I received your letters of the 10th.[308]

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I think you have lost a month of needlessly to start horse markets. This loss is irreparable. Shop for artillery horses and crews. Our horsepower is huge, and our needs are urgent.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy, Archives of Foreign Affairs,

19337. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT SMOLENSK.

Smolensk, November 14, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Elchingen that I am going to Krasnoi; that it is necessary that he continue to make the rear guard; that the prince of Eckmühl will support him; that he must remain in the position where he is all day today; that tomorrow, 15th, he will take the position of the convent and the suburbs, and that on the 16th he will blow up the town by leaving, or simply take the position of the bridge-head so as to blow up the town only on the 17th, if all was not ready; that it is necessary that he confer with the Prince of Eckmühl; that I recommend to him especially to make sure that the parts and ammunition are destroyed and that the least possible French is left in the place.

NAPOLEON.

According to the moose. Deposit of the war.

19338. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Smolensk, November 14, 1812.

The 200 mills that you sent us are distributed; but it seems that they are already reproached with being badly made; the nut is not so wet, I have ordered artillery officers to draw up a report. The fact is that there are already some who can no longer serve. The Paris workers did this as a junk thing. Prepare a number of others for reserve.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19339. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KRASNOI.

Krasnoi, November 15, 1812,

My Cousin, I can only show you my displeasure[309]

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that you did not warn the commander of the Gorky cavalry depots of the army movement and the one he had to do beyond the Dnieper. It was three days since I gave you the order, and the commander of Krasnoi receives it only today. Send a staff officer on the spot; let him walk all night, and repeat this order to the commander of the cavalry detachment at Gorky.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19340. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNA.

Dubrovna. November 18, 1812.

Cousin, write to the governor of Minsk that I will be tomorrow in Orcha; let him know that I ordered the 2nd corps, with a division of cuirassiers and 100 pieces of cannon, commanded by the Duke of Reggio, to proceed in a hurry and in a direct line to Borisof, to secure this important post and from there walk on Minsk. Meanwhile, General Dombrowski will go with his division in this place and observe what the body is doing in Minsk. Recommend to him to send agents of the country to the Duke of Bassano and Prince Schwarzcnberg, and to take care to write to you frequently.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war

19341. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROVNIA.

Doubrovna, November 18, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to General Dombrowski to proceed to Borisof, where he will be under the Duke of Reggio, and while waiting to take all measures to shelter this important post. Let him know that the headquarters is between Orcha and Borisof. As the Dombrowski division has more artillery than it needs, and the army needs it by the losses on the ice, you will ask General Dombrowski to let you know if he can supply a battery of six pieces, what size, and what would remain after.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[310]

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19342. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DOUBROUNA.

Doubrouna, November 19, 1812.

Cousin, send off the aide-de-camp of the Duke of Reggio; he will be: bearer for the Duke of Bellune of the duplicate of the letter which you wrote to him yesterday. You will inform the Duke de Regaio that the Duke de Bellune must have sent him orders to march on Borisof, that I arrive at Orcha at noon today; that he could not arrive too soon at Borisof. Send him to let him know the day he will arrive to form the vanguard of all your army, and take the road to Minsk, on which the Emperor is going to go. that he conceal this movement from the enemy, at least as long as it will be possible for him; that he prepares thirty pieces of cannon to give to the other corps of army to Borisof, where it is possible that it meets with the army; that it will have the double advantage of lightening the 2nd corps and supplying to the other corps an artillery which is very necessary for them.

Write to the Duke de Bellune that I arrive at Orcha today at noon, which is necessary, that the position he will take puts it closer to Borisof, Vilna and Orcha than the enemy army; to try to mask the movement of the Duke de Reggio, and to make us believe, on the contrary, that I am going to General Wittgenstein, a maneuver quite natural; that my intention is to go to Minsk, and, when one is master of that city, to take the line of Berezina; that it would, therefore, be possible for him to receive orders to go to Berezino, to cover the road of Vilna, and to meet in communication with the 6th corps; let him study this movement and let you know his observations; that as soon as he has made known the situation of the artillery which he may yield to the other corps, orders will be sent to him for the point towards which he may be directed.

Make sure that the Duke of Bellune has a number, so that he can write in the letters a few words in numbers which prevent his letters from being useful to the enemy in case they fall into his hands; this measure is indispensable, considering the quantity of Cossacks which will be everywhere.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19343. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA

Orcha, November 20, 1812.

Mr. Duke of Bassano, nothing new since my last[311]

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letter, of which I send you a duplicate. I am going on Borisof to march on Minsk, or, if the enemy is too strong, direct me by Borisof on Vileika and Vilna. We found here about sixty pieces of artillery useless. Direct by water, on the ground, in every way, the siege crew on Danzig, first the pieces, after the powders.

Write digitally and confidentially to the Minister of General Police. My health is very good.

I have no news of Marshal Ney; I despair of it. Try to send me food on Vileika. Above all send me news by cronies; I will ship one to you every day.

Tell Prince Schwarzenberg that I am walking on Minsk and that I am counting on him.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duc de Bassano.

19344. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA

Baran, November 20, 1812, in the evening.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, my anxiety about Marshal Ney has stopped. He has just joined us. I decided to run the whole army, even the Duke of Reggio and the Duke of Belluno, on Borisof and thence on Minsk. My great concern is for food.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19345. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BARAN.

Baran, November 21, 1812, three o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, inform the Duke of Elchingen that twelve pieces of artillery, which were attached to General Latour-Maubourg, and which are a league from Orcha on that road, are destined for him; that it is necessary that he should have them recognized in order to take them as soon as possible with his troops; let him also take guns for unarmed men. Order that General Marchand join the Duke of Elchingen with all the men belonging to the 3rd, 2nd, and 9th corps. Tell the Duke of Elchingen that I wish to know the time when his troops will be assembled in the city, and may[312]

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take position on the height, to follow the movement and clear Orcha.

Send to the Prince of Eckmühl that I wish him to send me at once all the cards he may have from the Minsk government, since we have no maps.

Send a courier to the governor of Minsk, who is at Borisof, to inform him that you have sent the order to General Dombrowski to rally his whole division; that if he had not received your order, he will repeat it to him by communicating your letter to him; that the Emperor is unhappy that this general has disseminated his forces, and that in circumstances like these he does not have his whole world in his hand; that he be careful to instruct the Duke of Reggio, and to instruct you exactly what would happen; that it is surprising that he has not yet received any agent from Vilna. Send this governor to send you one or two people who know the roads of the Minsk government and the country, especially from Borisof to Minsk.

Send the Prince d'Eckmühl to bring out all the carriages of Orcha, and make known the hour at which the city can be uncluttered; a viceroy to take special care to organize his artillery, to make known the place where it is, the position it occupies, and to help clear all the useless wagons that are at Orcha; instruct him to make known the time at which the Duke of Elchingen will join Oreha and may leave.

Send General Partouneaux's aide-de-camp to the Duke of Bellune, sending him the duplicate of the letter which General Dode sent him yesterday. Tell him that, as you learn that the rumor has spread in the army that the Duke of Elchingen had been cut off, you think it necessary to reassure him on this subject; that this marshal, having made his movement by the right bank, joined yesterday at Orcha.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19346. - ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Tolotchine, November 22, 1812.

The luggage will be reduced.

Any general or administrative officer who has several waqgons will burn half of them and return the horses to the artillery park.

The Major General is responsible for the execution of this order

According to the minute. Deposit of the war.[313]

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19347. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BOBR.

Bobr, November 23, 1812.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Bellune, who must be tonight at Kholopenitchi, to let him know that I am at Bohr, that the Duke of Reggio is on Borisof; that it is important that he cut off the Lepel road, as he proposed, on the side of Barany, in order to be certain that Wittgenstein bears nothing on the Duke of Reggio, and that if he spoke any he must attack it vigorously; that I hope he has written to me, and that I will receive one of his officers this evening; that it is probable that I speak to Borisof tomorrow; that as soon as I have received the official whom he has not failed to send me, I will write to him again; that our rear guard is in Tolotchine.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19348, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BOBR.

Bobr, November 23, 1812.

My cousin, send one of the Duke of Reggio's aides-de-camp to know him that I have arrived here with the three divisions of the Guard and the cavalry; that I look forward to learning in the night what he has done in the day today, that he is master of a passage over the Berezina and that he has bridges built there; that I hope he will have. taken precautions to ensure that our correspondence can be extremely rapid, and that he has left intermediate posts for this purpose.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19349. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BOBR.

Bobr, November 24, 1812, five o'clock in the morning.

My cousin, order that all the Polish detachments who are with General d'Alorna or behind join General Zayonchek, who will also assemble as many people as he can and will take the orders of the Duke of Elchingen, under whose orders I place it.

Order General Claparede to continue his journey immediately[314]

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that he will have finished his operation, and make today four or five leagues.

The 1st Division of the Young Guard, the Division of the Old Guard, the Roguet Division, the Cavalry of the Guard, the Artillery of General Sorbier, each division having its artillery, with the reserve artillery behind, will leave today. to walk on Borisof. The Delaborde division will set in motion at the day, the old guard at nine o'clock and the Roguet division successively. General Sorbier's artillery, the same one he took yesterday, will leave at six in the morning to pass the parade. Crews loaded with biscuit will follow the Guard and will also move at six o'clock in the morning. The Duke of Treviso will take care that anything beyond the front of his division is covered by a good battalion of the young Guard.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19350. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BOBR.

Bobr, November 24, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to General Zayonchek to have half of the carriages, cabriolets, vans of baggage and effects, and small carriages of all kinds of his army corps, burned in such a way as to halve the wagons of his carriage corps, which will still be too much; to gather for this purpose all the luggage, caissons of luggage and caissons of accountancy beyond Bobr, and to make there its operation of reduction this malignant before nine o'clock. He will give General Sorbier 120 horses and about 80 cognats [parentage by consanguinity], which will make 200 horses, and more if he can. If this contingent was not provided, he will prevent that tomorrow, when I pass, I will burn all the cars and vans of his corps. You will send a staff officer with 50 gendarmes to assist with this operation. General Sorbier will send an artillery officer, some gunners and 50 soldiers of the train to take the horses.

You will order the Duke d'Abrantes to burn half of the wagond, cabriolets, vans, coaches, etc., which are with his corps d'armee and with the cavalry on foot, and to supply horses and cognates to the general Sorbier; He will know the number he has been able to provide.

Order General Claparede to gather all his luggage beyond the Bohr and burn half of the coaches, cabriolets,[315]

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vans of luggage and cars of all kinds under his escort, so that he could supply 120 horses and 80 cognats to General Sorbier; General Sorbier will send an artillery officer and 50 soldiers of the train to receive the horses, and you will send staff officers and the gendarmerie to attend these operations. Reiterate the order to the whole army so that vans and useless wagons are burned and that no individual of the rank of colonel and below can have more than one wagon, either a cabriolet, wagon or van. You will let General Sorbier know that, if he does not have these horses, he must let you know without delay, seen. it is essential that he bring all the supplies of the 2nd corps and that no part or box of ammunition be left on the way.

According to the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19351. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Bobr, November 24, 1812.

The Duke of Bassano, General Dombrowski, who was at the head of the Borisof Bridge, let himself be forced on the 21st. The Duke of Reggio arrived on the 23rd at Borisof, took the town, and defeated the two Russian divisions which are there. Lambert is said to be seriously wounded. But the bridge is burned; we hope to build one in the day. It's cold. My health is very good. I long to have letters from Vilna and Paris.

I have not received any agent from you. It was easy, though. I have no news of Schwaraenberg, where is he?

Have a large quantity of food made in Vilna.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19352. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT LOCHNITSA.

Lochnitsa, November 25, 1812, one o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, send your aide-de-camp Flahault to the Duke of Reggio at once; that he gets there as soon as possible and hands him the following letter:

"By your letter of the 24th, at five o'clock in the evening, you make known to me that you think you need to be supported to make the passage of the river. The Duke of Treviso will be in Borisof today[316]

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early with two divisions of the Guard. The Duke de Bellune had a fight yesterday, which, judging by the cannonade, had to last some time, between Kholopenitchi and Barany. You will probably have had easels prepared for at least two or three bridges. General Eble must have arrived at Borisof. If you have not spent this night; it becomes very urgent in the present circumstances to pass today."

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19353. - TO JOACHIM NAPOLEON, KING OF THE TWO SICILIES, COMMANDING THE CAVALRY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BORISOF.

Locbnitsa, November 25, 1812, in the morning.

The Duke of Bellune will arrive at noon in Kostritsa and will be able tonight to cross the river. Have easels ready to build a bridge. General Eblé and many sappers have arrived. This evening we will execute the passage with the corps of Oudinot, that of the Duke de Bellune, the Imperial Guard, and successively the other corps; but with these three bodies only, which form nine divisions, there is enough to beat all that is before Borisoff, and with the help of God sweep the whole right bank, and make an operation which has influence on the rest of the campaign. Communicate this to the Duke of Reggio, and let me know his opinion and yours on all this.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19354. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, LOCHNITSA.

Lochnitsa, November 25, 1812.

Order the Duke of Treviso to leave with the Delaborde Division and his artillery at six o'clock in the morning, and to go first to Nemanitsa. The old Guard and the Roguet division, the cavalry of the Guard, that of Latour-Maubourg, will start at eight o'clock. It will be held by the gendarmerie brigades to prevent the stragglers, the wounded and the dismounted cavalry from approaching. from Borisof and beyond the village of Nemanitsa,

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.[317]

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19535. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, LOCHNITSA.

Lochnitsa, November 25, 1812.

Order General Claparede to set himself in motion at an early hour to carry himself with all his baggage and his convoy between Lochnitsa and Nemanitsa; and he will pass the ravine which is between these two places, Give the same order to the Duke of Abrantes.

Give order:

To the duke of Elchingen, to approach as near as possible to Borisof, so that he may pass the river by night; he will stop at Nemanitsa, and from this point he will ask for orders for his position. To the Prince of Eckmühl, to continue his movement; you will let him master to take the position he deems fit between Krupki and Natcha;

And to the viceroy, to remain according to the circumstances to Natcha or to take a position between Natcha and the post office, according to what happened at the house of Prince Eckmühl.

Let these generals know that I intend to force the passage of Berezina next night with the 2nd corps, the 9th and the Imperial Guard, and successively supported by the Duke of Elchingen and all the other corps; that as soon as this passage succeeds I will send them orders to come to the bridges; that I count, with the first three bodies named above, to attack all that the enemy has on the right bank.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19356. - TO THE CAPTAIN OF MORTEMART,
ORDER OFFICER OF THE EUPEREUR. STOUDIENKA

Stoudienka, November 27, 1812, one o'clock in the morning.

The orderly officer Mortemart will proceed with all due diligence to Borisof; he will meet General Claparede en route with the treasure; he will inform him that he must have received the order by the General Staff, dated the 27th, at one o'clock in the morning, to proceed with all diligence to the passage, in order to support the marshal Duke of Reggio, in leaving the treasure under an escort of 50 men, until the detachment to be furnished by the viceroy or the duke of Abrantes has arrived; that, moreover, this convoy must not lose a moment in going to the bridges. If he meets the viceroy and the prince of Eckmühl en route to Borisof, he will tell them to speed up their march,[318]

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and if the fatigue of their troops is such that they can not advance, he will urge them to make all possible demonstrations to disturb the enemy, either by skirmishers, or by batteries, & c. The Duke of Reggio was this night before the village of Slakhof (two leagues from the crossing and a league and a half from Borisof), and the enemy was in this village; thus any demonstration from one bank to another will worry him greatly and will oblige him to send battalions to guard his flanks.

He will try to reach Borisof between two and three o'clock in the morning.

He will go to the Duke of Bellune, and he will inform him that the Major-General is sending him the order, dated midnight and a half, on the 27th, to proceed at once to the passage, in order to support the Duke of Belluno. Reggio, whose position he will make known to him as well as that of the enemy; that it is necessary that the Duke de Bellune send forth a division at once, and successively the other; that Borisof will be guarded by a brigade of the 12th Division which he will recall for this purpose, if circumstances permit, unless the Prince of Eckmühl has arrived there and is obliged to rest, in which case could do it. He will stay until the day in Borisof; he will see the countenance which the enemy has vis-à-vis Borisof, if he has evacuated this position or if he holds. Then he will come to report to me the place where all the troops are.

NAPOLEON.

According to moose comm. by M. the General Duke of Mortemart.

19357. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, STOUDIENKA.

Studienka, November 21, 1812.

Cousin, give orders to the Marshal Duke of Elchingen to cross the river with all the Poles, which he has assembled from the 3rd corps, and the Claparede division, which will arrive at break of day, and which I place under his orders, and with these troops to support the Marshal Duke of Reggio if he were attacked this evil one. As soon as the Duke de Bellune has arrived, he will also go to support the Duke of Reggio. At last the Duke of Treviso, with the young Guard, will cross the river to support the Duke of Reggio. I would like to delay this last movement until the Viceroy's troops had arrived here, in fear lest Wittgenstein's troops should appear on the shore.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.[319]

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19358. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA

Studienka, November 27, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I have just passed the Berezina; but that river which carries a great deal of ice makes the stability of our bridges very difficult. The army that was opposed to Schwarzenberg wanted to dispute the passage; it is this night concentrated on the right bank of the Berezina, opposite Borisof. The cold is very considerable; the army is excessively tired. So I do not lose a moment to get closer to Vilna, to give us a little. It is possible that I take the road to Zembine, Plechtchennitsy, Smorgoni and Ochmiana. Have a large quantity of biscuit and biscuit bread made. I suppose you have constantly given us news in Paris. I received your letter of the 22nd, of which Mr. Abramowicz was a porter; it's the first one I receive.

What is the Prince of Schwarzenberg doing?

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by M, the Duke of Bassano.

19359. - TO THE PIUNCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ZANIVKI.

Zanivki, November 21, 1812,

The Duke of Bellune will guard the bridges and the city of Stoudienka; he will send parties not to be surprised by the movements of the enemy; he will put the best order possible at the passage of the bridges and will see to it that we work to keep them in order.

The Viceroy will spend the night with his artillery, and take his camp at the burnt village, behind the young Guard.

Prince Eckmühl will pass tomorrow morning, with his artillery, and will also take a position behind the burnt village.

All the baggage cars and wounded officers will be passed by day and night; all this will be on Zembine.

The Intendant-General will pass through the night the battalions of military transports which were following the Guard; they will serve to evacuate all the wounded of the Duke of Reggio, of the affair of yesterday; accordingly, the Chief of Staff and the Authorizing Officer will inform the whereabouts of the wounded.

It is necessary that the Duke of Bell take a good position outside the village, on the heights, with his infantry, artillery[320]

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and cavalry, in order to be able to keep there for several days and until all wagons, baggage and any effects have passed.

According to the minute. Deposit of the war,

19360, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ZANIVKI.

Zanivki. November 28, 1812,

Order the viceroy to leave tomorrow at daybreak Zembine to go on Plechtchennitsy, with all he escorts, The Duke of Abrantes will walk behind him with all the cavalry on foot, The vice he will take under his command the Polish cavalry commanded by Colonel Tyszkiewicz, who will throw parties to enlighten all the movements of the road on the right and of the left, and will communicate as soon as possible with General de Wrede, who is in Vileika.

Prince Eckmühl will arrive tomorrow at Zembine, before eight o'clock in the morning; it is important that this small town does not remain without being occupied.

The Polish colonel had to observe the side of Veselovo and Rogatka to observe the Cossacks; the Viceroy will send Polish agents in all directions.

According to the minute, Deposit of the war.

19361. TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ZANIVKI.

Zanivki. November 28, 1812.

Order General Wrede, who is at Dokchitsy, to go to Vileika, to gather food, to build bridges, to send parties on the road to Biya and on the old road to Minsk, and to communicate to Smorgoni with the adjutant commandant d'Albignac.

This letter will be carried by the man sent by General de Wrede: address it to General Krasinski. If it is delivered in fifteen hours time, there will be a reward of 50 napoleons, which will be given as soon as he comes to tell us.

According to the minute. Deposit of the war.[321]

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19862. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Zanivki, right bank of Berezina, near Zembine, November 29, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I have received your letter of the 25th of November, where you do not speak of France, and give me no news of Spain. It has been a fortnight, however, that I have received no news, no courier, and that I am in the dark of everything.

I'm walking on Vileika. It is fitting that Wrede and others meet there to build bridges and build one; have tools and what is needed for that.

Yesterday we had a very hot affair with Admiral Tchitchakof and Wittgenstein. We beat the first, which attacked us on the right bank, on the Borisof road. The second, who wanted to force the bridges over the Berezina, was contained. We made 6,000 prisoners; but we are very much saddened by the loss of a brigade of 3,000 men belonging to General Partouneaux, who, having erred on the way, has lost his way and has apparently been taken. We have not heard from him for two days. The Duke of Reggio and many generals were wounded.

The army is numerous, but disbanded in a frightful manner.

It takes fifteen days to give them back to the flags, and fifteen days, where can we have them? The cold, the privations have disbanded this army. We will be on Vilna: can we hold it? Yes, if we can hold eight days; but if we are attacked for the first eight days, it is doubtful whether we can stay there, food, provisions, provisions! without that, there is no horror to which that undisciplined mass can not be directed against this city. Perhaps this army will be able to rally behind the Niemen. In this state of things, it is possible that I believe my presence in Paris necessary for France, for the Empire, for the army itself. Tell me your opinion.

There must have been several courier of catch; if you have not heard from me since the 11th, write to Paris,

I wish that there is no foreign agent in Vilna. The army is not beautiful to show today; as for those who are there, they should be removed; for example, you could tell them that you are going, that I am going to Warsaw, and direct them there by sending them off at the appointed day.

NAPOLEON.

According to moose comm. by the Duke de Bassano.[322]

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19363, - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Plechtchennitsy, November 30, 1812.

Monsieur Duke de Bassano, I will be on the 2nd at Molodechnna. I wrote to Wrede to go to Vileika. Send food, bread, biscuit, to meet us, Put a good garrison to put the police and stop the isolated; I have more than 40,000, that fatigue, want of food, and cold make traveling like vagabonds or better by brigands. If we can not give 100,000 rations of bread to Vilna, I pity this city. Food in abundance alone can put everything back in order. The governor can come to meet me to learn the state of things.

The army is horribly tired. There are forty-five days of walking, She has needs of all kinds. It is necessary that the governor and the government take measures to make food all over the isolated, but stop them and lead them to the flags. A lot of firmness and food everywhere, and all will recover for a few days. Send me news from Schwarzenberg, Minsk and Sacken.

I told you that I beat Admiral Tchitclrakof and his four divisions and made him 6,000 prisoners. I reduced to 7,000 men of infantry and 6,000 of cavalry. I beat Wittgenstein at the crossing of the Berezina. There is no news of Kutuzov, call it Schwarzenberg. Tell him that a brigade of the Partouneaux Division went astray during the night as it was marching to join the bridge, and that it threw itself into the enemy posts. I believe her lost. They will sound that, but it is only a very unfortunate accident. Tell him that I want to enter winter quarters and that my army needs to recover from its fatigue.

Send to Daru, who is intendant, the states of the effects of clothing which are in Kovno, Vilna and Danzig. Food in Vilna, food in all districts, bread, meat and brandy. What would be the cantonments around Vilna where one could live best? Are there horses? Where and how much? We need it badly. Bourcier must not rely on harnessing effects: we bring nothing but men, and only a few swords. The operation of the enemy on Minsk, which obliged us to prolong our retreat for twenty-two days, and the shameful inaction of the Duke of Bellune, who did not attack, made us an[323]

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badly bad. Without these accidents, I would have stayed in Smolensk, Vitebsk, Orcha, Mohilef. Prince Schwarzenberg cruelly compromised me!

You do not speak to me about Paris; However, it has been twenty days since I have had any new ones. Where are the eighteen stalls missing? How is the Empress?

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19364. - INSTRUCTION FOR M. DE MONTESQUIOU, CHIEF SQUIRE, AIDE D'CAMP OF THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL, SELITCHÉ;

Selitche, December 2, 1812.

M. de Montesquieu will leave at once to go to Paris. He will deliver the attached letter to the Empress. He will see the duke of Bassano in Vilna to inform him of the need to take measures to stop the isolated by feeding them, and especially to have a large quantity of food, bread, meat and brandy, in order to succeed in the army the abundance to the misery where she is today. He will announce everywhere the arrival of 10,000 Russian prisoners and the victory won over Berezina, in which 6,000 Russian prisoners were captured and eight flags and twelve pieces of cannon were taken. He will also announce it at Kovno, at Konigsberg, at Berlin at the house of M. de Saint-Marsan, and will have everywhere put in the gazelles: "M. de Montesquiou, aide-de-camp of the Prince of Neuchatel, passed carrying the news of the victory of Berezina, won by the Emperor over the combined armies of Admiral Tchitchakof and General Wittgenstein; he carries to Paris 8 flags taken from the Russians in this battle, where they have been made 6,000 prisoners and taken twelve pieces of cannon. At the departure of this officer, the Emperor Napoleon was at Vilna very well. M. de Montesquiou will take care that this article be put in the newspaper of Mainz. The duke of Bassano will then have it put in the Vilna newspapers, and write in that direction at Vienna. M. de Montesquiou will go as quickly as possible, in order to contradict everywhere the false rumors that have been spread. He will relate that these two corps (1) wanted to cut off the army, but that they walked on their belly, that he arrived in Vilna, where he finds many stores that will soon have given his sufferings that he has experienced.

Arrived in Paris, he will be able to give the Empress details

1) Admiral Tchitchakof and General Wittsenstein.[324]

on the good health of the Emperor and the state of the army. He will wait for new orders.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count de Montesquiou-Fezensac,

19365. - 29th BULLETIN OF THE GREAT ARMY (1)

Molodetchna. December 3, 1812.

Until the 6th of November the weather was perfect, and the movement of the army was executed with the greatest success. The cold started on the 7th; From that moment, every night we lost several hundred horses, which died at the bivouac. Arrived at Smolensk, we had already lost many horses of cavalry and artillery. The Russian army of Volhynia was opposed to our right. Our right wing left the line of operation at Minsk, and took the line of Warsaw as the pivot of its operations. The Emperor learned at Smolensk, on the 9th, this change of line of operation, and presumed what the enemy would do. Hard as it seemed to him to set in motion in such a cruel season, the new state of things necessitated it. He hoped to reach Minsk, or at least on the Berezina, before the enemy; he left on the 13th of Smolensk; on the 16th he went to Krasnoi. The cold, which began on the 7th, suddenly increased, and from the 14th to the 15th, the thermometer marked 16 and 18 degrees below the ice. The roads were covered with ice; the horses of cavalry, artillery, and trains perished every night, not by the hundreds, but by the thousands, especially the horses of France and Germany. More than 30,000 horses died in a few days; our cavalry found itself on foot; our artillery and our transports were without carriages. We had to abandon and destroy a good part of our munitions of war and cannon.

This army, so beautiful on the 6th, was very different from the 14th, almost without cavalry, without artillery, without transports. Without cavalry, we could not enlighten ourselves a quarter of a league; however, without artillery, we could not risk a battle and wait with firm footing; it was necessary to march in order not to be compelled to a battle, which the want of ammunition prevented us from desiring; it was necessary to occupy a certain space not to be turned, and that without cavalry which lighted and bound the columns. This difficulty, combined with an excessive cold suddenly arrived, made our situation unfortunate. of the

1) See, on the *Bulletins of the Grande Armée* the note inserted in the volume XXIII of the *Correspondence*, p. 520.[325]

men that nature did not soak hard enough to be above all chance of luck and fortune seemed to shake, lose their gaiety, their good humor, and dream only of misery and disaster; those he created above all kept their joy and their ordinary ways, and saw new glory in different difficulties to overcome.

The enemy, who saw in the tracks the traces of this terrible calamity which struck the French army, sought to take advantage of it. It enveloped all the columns with its Cossacks, which, like the Arabs in the deserts, removed trains and wagons that drove away. This despicable cavalry, which makes only noise and is unable to sink a company of volleys, was fearful of the circumstances. However, the enemy had to repent of all the serious attempts he wanted to make; he was struck by the viceroy, in front of whom he had placed himself, and lost much of it.

I'm taking him. of Elchingen, who with 3,000 men in the rear guard, had smashed the walls of Smolensk. He was identified and in a critical position; he pulled away from it with this fearlessness that set him apart. After keeping the enemy away from him throughout the day of the 18th and constantly pushing him away, at night He made a right flank movement, passed the Borysthene, and defied all the enemy's calculations. On the 19th, the army passed the Borysthene to Orcha, and the Russian army, tired, losing many people, ceased its attempts.

The Volhynie army had attacked Minsk as early as the 16th and marched on Borisof. General Dombrowski defended Borisof's bridgehead with 3,000 men. On the 23rd, he was forced and forced to evacuate this position. The enemy then passed the Berezina, marching on Bohr; the Lambert division was at the forefront. The 2nd Corps, commanded by the Duke of Reggio, who was in Tcharaya, had been ordered to carry Borisof to ensure the passage of the Berezina to the army. On the 24th, the Duke of Reggio encountered the four-leagues Lambert of Borisof, attacked, defeated, took 2,000 prisoners, took six pieces of cannon, 500 luggage wagons from the Volhynia army, and threw out the enemy on the right bank of the Berezina. General Berkheim, with the 4th Battalion, distinguished himself with a fine charge. The enemy found his salvation only by burning the bridge, which has more than 300 tois.

However, the enemy occupied all the passages of the Berezina: this river is 40 tois wide; it was carrying enough ice, and its edges were 300-yard long marsh concerts, which made it[326]

tends to be a difficult obstacle to overcome. The enemy general had placed his four divisions in various outlets where he assumed that the French army would want to pass.

On the 26th, at the peak of the day, the Emperor, having deceived the enemy by various movements made on the day of the 25th, set out on the village of Stoudienka, and at once, in spite of an enemy division and in his presence, throw two bridges over the river. The Duke of Reggio passed, attacked the enemy and led him for two hours, and the enemy returned to Borisof's bridgehead. General Legrand, a first-time officer, was seriously injured, but not seriously. All day on the 26th and 27th the army passed.

The Duke of Bellune, commanding the 9th Corps, was ordered to follow the movement of the Duke of Reggio, to make the rear guard and to contain the Russian army of the Dvina that followed him. The Partouneaux division was the rear guard of this corps. On the 27th, at noon, the Duke of Bellune arrived with two divisions at Stoudienkn Bridge.

The Partouncaux division left for Borisof's night. A brigade of this division, which formed the rear guard and was responsible for burning the bridges, left at seven o'clock in the evening; click arrives between ten and eleven o'clock; she was looking for her first brigade and division commander, who had left two hours earlier and had not met in a roll. His research was futile, and concerns were raised. All we have known since then is that this first brigade, which started at five o'clock, went astray at six, took the right instead of the left, and made two or three leagues in that direction; that, at night and cold, he joined the fires of the enemy, which he took for those of the French army; surrounded thus, he will have been abducted. This cruel contempt must have made us lose 2,000 infantry men, 300 horses and three pieces of artillery. It was a rumor that the senate of the division was not with his column and had walked in isolation.

The whole army having passed on the morning of the 28th, the Duke of Bellune kept the bridgehead on the left bank; the Duke of Reggio, and behind him the whole army, was on the right bank.

Borisof was evacuated, the army of the Dvina and Volhynie communicated; they concerted an attack. On the 28th, at daybreak, the Duke of Reggio informed the Emperor that he was attacked; half an hour later the Duke de Bellune was on the left bank; the army took up arms. The Duke of Elchingen went after the Duke of Reggio, and the Duke of Treviso behind the Duke of Elchingen. The fight became alive: the enemy wanted to overflow our right, The general[327]

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Doumerc, commander of the 5th cuirassiers Division, and part of the 2nd Corps remaining on the Dvina, commanded a cavalry charge at the 4th and 5th cuirassiers Regiments, when the Legion of the Vistula engaged in woods to drill, the center of the enemy, which was knocked down and overthrown. These brave battleships successively sank six squares of infantry, and overthrew the enemy cavalry that came to the aid of its infantry: 6,000 prisoners, two flags and six pieces of cannon fell into our power.

For his part, the Duke of Bellone charged the enemy vigorously, beat him, made 5 to 600 prisoners, and held him out of reach of the bridge cannon. General Fournier made a fine cavalry charge.

In the Battle of Berezina, the Volhynie army suffered a great deal. The Duke of Reggio was injured; his injury is not dangerous; he was shot in the side.

The next day, 29, we remained on the battlefield. We had to choose between two roads, Minsk and Vilna. The Minsk road passes through the forest and swamps, and it would have been impossible for the army to feed itself. The road to Vilnius, on the contrary, passes through very good countries. The army, without cavalry, weak in ammunition, horribly tired of a fifty-day march, trailing its sick and wounded in so many battles, needed to reach its stores. On the 30th, the headquarters were at Plechtchennitsy; on December 1, in Staïki; and on the 3rd, at Molodetchna, where the army received its first convoys from Vilnius.

All the officers and wounded soldiers, and all the embarrassments, baggage, etc., were directed to Vilnius.

To say that the army needs to restore its discipline, to recover, to regain its cavalry, its artillery and its equipment, is the result of the presentation that has just been made. Rest is his first need. Equipment and horses arrive. General Bourcier already has more than 20,000 horses back in various depots. The artillery has already repaired its losses. Generals, officers, and soldiers suffered greatly from fatigue and dissatisfaction. Many have lost their luggage as a result of the loss of their horses; some by the Cossack ambushes. The Cossacks took many isolated men, geographers who were taking positions, and wounded officers who were walking with caution, preferring to take risks rather than walk properly. and in convoys.[328]

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The reports of the commanding officer generals will reveal the most distinguished officers and soldiers, and the details of all these memorable events.

In all these movements, the Emperor always marched in the midst of his Guard, the cavalry commanded by the Marshal Duke of Istria, and the infantry commanded by the Duke of Danzig. His Majesty was pleased with the good spirit his Guards showed: he was always ready to go wherever circumstances required. but circumstances have always been such that its mere presence was sufficient and was not in the case of giving.

The Prince of Neuchàtel, the Grand Marshal, the Grand Squire, and all the aides d'camp and military officers of the Emperor's House have always accompanied His Majesty.

Our cavalry was so adamant that we had to gather the officers with whom a horse remained to form four companies. 150 men each. The generals acted as captains, and the colonels as sub-officers. This sacred squadron, commanded by General Grouchy, and under the orders of the King of Naples, did not lose sight of the Emperor in all movements.

His Majesty's health has never been better.

Extract from the *Moniteur* of December 16, 1812.

19366. - TO PRINCE CAMBACÉRÈS, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, IN PARIS.

Molodctchua, December 3, 1812.

My cousin, the newsletters and Anatole Montesquiou, whom I sent to Paris, will have provided you with news of this country. My health is very good. The cold is very considerable. I find the army tired. I await in the day twenty courier, who were restrained by fear that they would fall into the hands of the enemy. I will write to you from one moment to the next in great detail.

NAPOLÉON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke of Cambaceres.

19367. - TO M. MARET, DUC OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS IN VILNA.

Molodelchna. December 3, 1812.

Mr. Duke of Bassano, you saw Montesquiou, who left here today at the peak of the day. I send him to Paris. We[329]

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are horribly tired, hungry. Bring bread, meat, and brandy to meet us. I have 100,000 isolated men who are trying to live and are no longer on flags, which makes us run horrible dangers. My old Guard alone is reunited, but hunger also wins. My big luggage left tonight for Vilna: Get ready to. come against me at Ochmiana. Recommend to the authorizing officer in Vilna to correspond exactly with Count Daru, who is the founder of steward. We will keep Vilna if we have food in abundance and if Schwarzenberg maneuver in the sense of the army. Have a good language do not let anything sweat. Ten days of rest and plenty of food will restore subordination.

That the governor remain at Vilna, where it is necessary; that he should gather all the isolated by corps d'armee, and in convents, and feed them well with a complete ration of bread, meat, and brandy; that he should stop the isolated and prevent them from passing Vilna; that he condemns to death any soldier found to have abandoned his flag and passed Vilna.

I need to know what food is in Vilna and Kovno, as well as clothing and war ammunition effects. Has Kovno been fortified? What did we do? Is the entrenched camp of Vilna finished? What does it consist on? If it were necessary to evacuate Vilna and Kovno, what would it be necessary to destroy? What could be carried? What means of transport do we have?

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the duke de Bassano.

19368.- NOTE ON A REPORT OF THE DUKE OF BASSANO.

Sire, at the same time that I took care to contribute, as much as it was in me, to the execution of your Majesty's orders to accelerate and multiply the purchases of horses, I thought of my extraordinary resource which the country could offer, in order to cover during the winter the cantonments against the incursion of the Cossacks, this resource seemed to me to be able to be found in the raising of the little nobility, which, by the laws of the country, is held to a personal service on horseback .

The most enlightened members of the government, whom I secretly consulted, have eagerly adopted this opening. They have been busy preparing the work by seeking to reconcile the respect that must be had for the usages, in order to succeed, and the correct order to be established in the levies and in their employment. They gave me yesterday their final work. I warned today the governor general of this country, and he presides in this moment a[330]

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this determination will be kept secret until it receives the approval of Your Majesty.

The number of nobles in Lithuania is known to rise to 99,000. Only one third could be called; on this third, half would be made active and mobile, the other half would form a reserve. These two deities would be the first and second ban of the nobility. Each man called would be required to present himself in service with a horse, a spear, and a sword. Those with firearms would be placed in the first rank and receive lead and powder.

The distribution which results from the work and reservations which have been made, gives for the first ban, that is to say for active service;

In the government of Vilna, 7,300 men; of Grodno, 800; from Bialystok, 2,200; from Minsk, 4,500; total, 15,800 men, The reserve gives an equal number.

But there are deductions to be made for the parts of Vilna and Minsk, which are occupied by the enemy; it is believed, however, that we can count on 8 or 9 men, or even 10,000 men, mounted and armed.

The regulations, where the Polish forms had to be observed, determine the organization, mode and nature of the service. He seems to me to be able to promise some success, and, as it stands, his publicity could be of a good effect on public opinion. I will send it incessantly to your Majesty, and it would not be impossible, he would open the campaign, to get out of the first ban a few regiments of light infantry, composed of men a little disciplined and able to serve the army.

I am, etc.

THE DUKE OF BASSANO

Vilna, December 1st, 1812.

Molodetchna, December 3, 1812

It is ridiculous for me to ask my approval on that measure. The locals had to take it in the first days. Better late than never.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire

19369. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Molodetchna, December 3, 1812

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I receive your letter in which you propose to me 15,000 men of Polish light cavalry to oppose the Cossacks. It is absurd that for six months that I have been in this place, it is only today that this measure is proposed to me; it must have been eight days after my entry into Poland. The Cossacks would not have ravaged the country; these men would have maintained[331]

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my communications from Moscow to Vilna and spared my cavalry. But I guess all this is an illusion and you will not have 500 men. What good is my opinion on this? Why send me projects? It is quite evident that, if I can have 30 to 40,000 men on horseback beating the Cossacks, I can not refuse them. But I'm afraid this measure is too late. It should not be taken only in Lithuania, but it should be taken also in the Grand Duchy of Warsaw. The act of a confederation means that the nobility is on horseback; instead, no one has moved. I have been very badly seconded by Lithuania and the Duchy of Warsaw, or rather I have not been seconded at all by either the Government nor by the country.

The army will soon rely on Vilna; it takes 120,000 rations of bread a day, it is a sine qua non. Send it to Ochmiana. But if all these resources are not more real than those of Smorgoni, we will not continue to die of hunger.

You propose to spin from Vilna 100 to 150,000 rations of biscuit on Smorgoni; but that's only the food of a day, and I think the government knows that men eat every day.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19370. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AT VILNA •

Molodechnna, December 3, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, at last I am announced the courier in half an hour, and meanwhile I receive your letters of the 1st of December; I see the state of the artillery well detailed, but I do not see at all the state of food in Vilna.

I fear that the measures taken by the Government will be too late, and that the results will be fatal for this city and Lithuania. By the reports we have of Smorgoni, there is not a quarter of what you present us. You do not tell me what is in Vilna; I can see that there are 500,000 rations of biscuit, probably biscuit from Kovno; but I do not see the quantity of wheat, flour, brandy, meat, which is there. The army is dying of hunger, it is 100 or 120,000 rations a day, of meat and brandy. Thus, for only one month, it would be necessary to have 60 to 80,000 quintals of flour insured in Vilna, the double of[332]

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wheat and a large quantity of oxen. The government did not want to do anything; he is currently stirring; God grant it's not too late!

NAPOLÉON.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19371. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Molodetchna. December 4, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I have received your letter of the 2nd of December. I do not see in the *Moniteur* anything very important about the affairs of Spain. The resistance of the castle of Burgos is a beautiful military affair, but which proves nothing else except that the places are not taken without siege artillery. Lord Wellington has gone to work against the army of Andalusia. If we lose a battle on this side, the affairs of this country would become a serious crisis. If the news of the Battle of Hill on the Tagus is ascertained, it would be a great and happy news; but this news does not deserve any belief. It is impossible to think that the English had lost the judgment to the point of fighting the duke of Dalmatia before being united, especially in the state of weakness where the diseases and the losses of the war reduced them.

I want you to meet me at Smorgoni. Have accordingly placed relays and escorts for three cars between Vilna and Smorgoni. Have a regiment marched from Konigsberg to stay in Kovno until further notice.

Send the ministers of America, Prussia, and all the other ministers to Warsaw, where you will announce that you will go yourself.

Today is the 4th; you will receive this letter in the night; I am waiting for you on the evening of the 5th at Smorgoni, Bring all the documents on the provisions, clothing, treasure, arms, which are at Vilna and Kovno, as well as all that pertains to the horses.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19372. - TO M, MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN VILNA.

Molodechnna, December 4, 1812.

Mr. Duke of Bassano, write to Warsaw that I am little[333]

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satisfied with the confederation, which did nothing; it did not even do what the Poles of Podolia, Volhynia, and the Ukraine did for Russia, they raised 5 to 6,000 Cossacks; and these, who could give me 50 to 60,4000 men by their levy in mass, since confederation means nobility army, did nothing at all that sentences. The ambassador of Pradt has displayed no talent or common sense. There are currently almost no Russians in Volyn and Ukraine; if the confederation were good for something, this whole country would be under arms. They missed a great opportunity, when Admiral Tchitchakof's whole army had gone to Minsk. We must know what we can count on this side. What remains of the army of the Grand Duchy will focus on Olitta to reorganize. There is almost no one, no infantry, no cavalry. As for Lithuania, they have not been of any use to me. I had brought them a large quantity of arms; they do not know how to use them yet, to the point that they are not safe from the incursions of 30 Cossacks.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives

19373. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AT VILNA.

Molocletchna. December 4, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, the question of establishing the winter quarters around Vilna or evacuating it depends first of all on that of the subsistence, as I have already told you. If, as a result of the improvidence of the government, we do not have the necessary means, all the measures we take are now insufficient. In the present circumstances, the soldier does not murmur, does not complain; but as long as his distribution is not complete, he leaves the flag and runs the country. With complete distributions, it will take energy to restore discipline. No power can do anything more, and we will have to go and find stores and the country that can provide them.

We must stop the movement of the 34th division in Ochmiana. If she left, how to feed her? He will disband like the rest of the army. The shops of Smorgoni are little. I am assured that there are also very few resources in Ochmiana. The army, tired and exhausted of misery, is exhausted. Well it is no longer possible for him, not even if it was to defend Paris, if beforehand the[334]

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belly is not filled and regular distributions. It's not even flour now, it's bread or biscuit. There must be furnaces in Vilna to make 60 to 80,000 rations a day. If the provisions are not insured, not only can we not keep Vilna, but I have every reason to fear that the discontent of the army will carry it to all conceivable excesses, without being able to prevent them. I think I have already sent you all this. If food can not be provided in Vilna, it is necessary to take care of evacuating, starting with the treasure. We have here 3 to 4 million. I am assured that he has the double in Vilna; take them on Danzig.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

19374. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERES.
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS (1).

Beuitsa, December 5, 1812.

My Cousin, the newsletter will have made you aware of our position and what has happened. Your concern must have been acute. I receive all your letters until November 24th. The cold here is very big, my perfect health.

The quarrels of the ministers of the police and the war are ridiculous; I'm afraid the Minister of Police is wrong. Why does he want to the staff, who saved everything? This is unfair (2).

You will soon hear from me in more detail and on all business.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19375. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Benitsa, December 5, 1812.

I read with interest the newspaper of the siege of Burgos; I think you have to put it in the monitor.

Present me a draft decree to reward General Dubreton and the officers and soldiers who have distinguished themselves in this defense.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

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1) This letter and the following four letters are written entirely by the hand of the Emperor.

2) The Emperor here alludes to the discussions that took place between the Minister of War and the Minister of Police during the Malet affair.[335]

19376 - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BENITSA.

Beuitsa, December 5, 1812.

Cousin, two or three days after my departure, we shall place the decree herewith at the order of the army. It will be rumored that I went to Warsaw with the Austrian corps and the 7th corps. Five or six days later, according to the circumstances, the King of Naples will make an order of the day to make known to the army that having had to carry me to Paris I entrusted him with the command; that he hopes that officers, generals, and soldiers will give him the confidence he deserves by his devotion and his services, & c.; that he will hasten to make known to the Emperor, on his return, the officers who, in this circumstance, have best assisted him.

Napoleon.

DECREE.

Napoleon, etc.

ART. 1st, The King of Naples is appointed our Lieutenant General to command in our absence the Grand Army.

ART. 2nd, The Minister of War is responsible for the execution of this decree.

From the original, Depot of War.

19377. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BENITSA.

Benitsa, December 5, 1812

Cousin, I am sending you an instruction for the general reorganization of the army. The King of Naples will make the modifications which circumstances require. I think, however, that it is necessary to organize immediately the Lithuanians at Kovno, the 5th corps at Warsaw, the Bavarians at Grodno, the 8th Corps and the Würtembergers at Olitta, the small depots at Meretch and Olitta, and direct the cavalry on foot on Warsaw and Konigsberg, as well as the soldiers of the train and the military equipages which do not have horses.

The day after to-morrow, all the cavalry returns from Vilna to Konigsberg must be made.

It is necessary to send off the diplomatic agents the day after tomorrow for Warsaw.

It is also necessary to send for all the wounded generals and officers to Warsaw and Konigsberg, making them understand the necessity[336]

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to rid Vilna and to have housing for the active part of the army.

It is said that the treasure of Vilna is considerable: give orders to send some to Warsaw and to Konigsberg, where necessary, which will rid Vilna of all that. Finally all the orders that tend to rid Vilna must be given tomorrow, since this is useful for several reasons.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19378. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE NARBONNE,
AID D'CAMP OF THE EMPEROR, IN SMORGONI.

Smorgoui, December 5, 1812.

You will go to Berlin; you will leave in three days from Vilna. You will write to me by speaking, by the courier, the turn that things take. You will be given the last newsletter to know the language to hold. You will find in Berlin a letter for the King of Prussia and my instructions for you. You will wait in Berlin for the order to return to Paris, You will write to me every day,

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19379. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT RAPP,
AID D'CAMP OF THE EMPEROR, IN SMORGONI.

Smorgoui, December 5, 1812.

You will go to Vilna; you will stay there for four days; you will contribute with all your means to rally the army. You will write to me every day, You will go from there to Danzig, where you will fulfill the functions of governor.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19380, - TO GENERAL LEBRUN, DUKE OF PLAISANCE,
EMPEROR'S CAMP AID, IN SMORGONI,

Smorgon, December 5, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Plaisance, you will leave here in ten days. You will report to me every day by the courier of what is happening. Returning to Paris, you will pass through Warsaw; you will stay there for five to six days.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the General Duke of Plaisance.[337]

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19381. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT OF LAURISTON, EMPEROR'S AID D'CAMP, IN SMORGONI.

Smorgoni, December 5, 1812.

Count Lauriston, you will go to Warsaw.

You will see the authorities and my ambassador. You will order food, and the lifting of the confederation of all the nobility, and try to arm it. You will visit Modlin; you will stay there for six to seven days. You will get the newsletter to know the language to keep. You will write to me every day (1).

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19382. - GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE OF ROVIGO, MINISTER OF POLICE GENERAL IN PARIS.

Smorgoni, December 5, 1812.

Your quarrels with the staff of Paris seem pitiful, unjust and impolitic.

The weather here is very cold. My health is very good. The newsletter will have told you everything and learned the state of affairs.

In a few days I will work in more detail on all the backlog, which is considerable.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19383. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SMORGONI.

Smoraoni. December 5, 1812.

My Son, I have received your letter (2). Do your homework and rest

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1) The minute of this letter is entirely from the hand of the Emperor.

2) EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, TO THE EMPEROR.

December 5, 1812.

Sire, I am not permitted to seek to penetrate the wishes of your Majesty; but if, as is probable, your Majesty is not long in surrendering to the wishes of France, and if it is your intention to leave me to the army with the King of Naples, I take the liberty to call further evidence of his kindness to me. Sire, I have devoted my life to the service of your Majesty; it would be painful for me to be employed only for the glory of another prince, especially according to the sentiments of that person with regard to me, sentiments which your Majesty knows as well as I do. I therefore dare to ask her for an order to return to Italy at the time he thinks most suitable.

In the event that your Majesty leaves me the army, I will remain there as much as I please, and I will continue to serve it with the same zeal and devotion.[338]

on me. I am the same for you and know what you need. Never doubt my paternal feelings.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S, A. I. The Duchess of Leuchteuberg.

18384. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, WARSAW.

Kutno, December 11, 1812.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, let the diplomatic corps know that I am going to Paris; that he must no longer be in the army. Announce this also by mail to Vienna and Berlin. Austria must have a capable minister in Paris. The Prince of Schwarzenberg can retain the title of ambassador. Instruct Otto to try that the 30,000 men in Transylvania and Hungary take the offensive in Volyn.

I was most astonished at all the ridiculous remarks that the Abbé de Pradt had made for an hour. I did not make him feel it. It seems he has nothing for the place he fills. This abbe has only the spirit of books. You can call him back immediately, or upon your arrival in Paris, by sending him back to his diocese and replacing him with Lajard or Rumigny. I think Bignon is still useful in Vilna.

In a short audience I gave to Count Potocki and Minister of Finance, I could not tell them all I wanted:

I gave them a 2 million voucher on the payer. Let them know that this must be specially affected for the ride of their cavalry. You can give them 2 million rubles for the same purpose.

I saw with difficulty that their national guard was neither armed nor dressed. How! Will Cracow and Lublin be looted by a handful of Cossacks? I have, however, 100,000 rifles for this purpose. In talking with the Minister of War, you will know where these guns are; but I suppose there are Bromberg, Thorn, Posen, etc. I'm sure there are 40,000 in Kovno that are an embarrassment.

See that we are armed everywhere and that we take a more suitable altitude. Do the opposite of what the Archbishop of Mechelen told me, who wants only well-organized armies. The government must take care of lifting hunters. The war can last a long time; we must therefore prepare all his means.[339]

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You will find at Saint-Marsan instructions on what you will have to do in Prussia.

If General Lauriston is in Warsaw, tell him to wait for a despatch from me, which I will send to him.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19385. - A FRANÇOIS 1st, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, IN VIENNA.

Dresden. December 14, 1812.

My dear Brother and dear Father-in-law, I stop for a moment in Dresden to write to your Majesty and to give him news of me. Despite great hardships, my health has never been better. I left on the 4th of this month, after the battle of Berezina, of Lithuania, leaving the Grand Army under the orders of the King of Naples, the Prince of Neuchatel continuing to act as Major General. I will be in Paris four days; I will stay in the winter months, to go about my most important business. Perhaps your Majesty will find it useful to send someone there in the absence of his ambassador, whose presence is so useful to the army.

The various ballots which the Duke de Bassano will have sent to Count Otto will have informed your Majesty of all the events which have taken place since my departure from Moscow. It would be important, under these circumstances, for your Majesty to make a corps of Galicia and Transylvania mobile, thus bringing his entire force to 60,000 men.

I am full of confidence in your Majesty's feelings. The covenant we have made forms a permanent system from which our people must derive such great benefits, that I think that your Majesty will do all that it has promised me at Dresden to assure the triumph of the common cause and to lead us promptly to a suitable peace. She may be persuaded that, on the other hand, she will always find me ready to do anything that may be agreeable to her and to convince her of the importance I attach to our present relations, and to give her proof of the perfect esteem and High consideration with which I am from your Majesty the good brother and son-in-law.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the Emperor of Austria.[340]

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19386. - IN THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KOENIGSBERG.

Paris. December 18, 1812. (1)

Cousin, I can hardly see that you did not stop at Vilna for seven or eight days in order to take advantage of the effects of clothing and to rally the army a little. I hope you have taken a position on the Pregel; nowhere is it possible to have as many resources as on this line and at Konigsberg. I hope that Generals Schwarzenberg and Reynier will have covered Warsaw. Prussia is preparing to send reinforcements to cover its territory.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19387. - To M. MELZI, DUKE OF LODI,
CHANCELLER, GUARD OF THE SEALS OF THE ROVAUME OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Paris, December 19, 1812.

Cousin, I arrived in Paris yesterday, in very good health. I received the various notices you sent me. The viceroy remains at the Grande Armée. Keep sending me newsletters of everything new in Italy.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19388. - TO JOACHIM NAPOLEON, KING OF THE TWO SICILIES,
COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KOENIGSBERG.

Paris. December 19, 1812.

I arrived in Paris. I was extremely happy with the spirit of the nation. We are ready to make all kinds of sacrifices, and I am constantly engaged in reorganizing all my means. I already have an army of 40,000 men in Berlin and on the Oder. The King of Prussia proposes to send reinforcements to his army, and to repair all his cavalry promptly; the King of Saxony has the same intentions. Konigsberg and Pregel will offer you resources that you will not find if you are cornered beyond.

The Russians boast of all the interviews you had at the outposts and disfigure them. They have the impudence to declare that all this was to fall asleep and deceive.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

1) The date of the 18 is overwritten, and, apparently, by the hand of the Emperor.[341]

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19389.- RESPONSE TO THE ADDRESS OF THE CONSERVATIVE SENATE.

Palace of the Tuileries, December 20, 1812.

Senators, what you are telling me is very pleasant to me. I have at heart the glory and power of France; but my first thoughts are for all that can perpetuate the inner tranquility and to protect my people forever from the rifts of factions and horrors of anarchy. It is upon these enemies of the happiness of the people that I founded, with the will and the love of the French, this throne, to which the destinies of the country are now attached.

Shy and cowardly soldiers lose the independence of nations, but pusillanimous magistrates destroy the empire of laws, the rights of the throne, and the social order itself.

The most beautiful death would be that of a soldier who perishes in the field of honor, if the death of a magistral perishing defending the sovereign, the throne and the laws, was no longer glorious.

When I undertook the regeneration of France, I asked Providence for a fixed number of years. It is destroyed in a moment, but can not be rebuilt without the help of time. The greatest need of the state is that of brave magistrates.

Our fathers had a rallying cry: The king is dead, long live the king! This few words contain the main advantages of the monarchy. I think I have studied well the spirit which my people have shown in different ages; I reflected on what has been done at different times in our history; I will think about it again,

The war I am fighting against Russia is a political war; I did it without animosity. I wanted to spare him the evils that she herself made. I could have armed the greater part of its population against itself, by proclaiming the freedom of the slaves; a large number of villages have asked me; but when I knew the stupidity of this large class of the Russian people, I refused this measure, which would have sacrificed many families to death, devastation, and the most horrible tortures.

My army has suffered losses, but it is by the premature rigor of the season.

I agree with the feelings you express to me.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur*, December 21, 1812.[342]

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19390. - RESPONSE TO THE ADDRESS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

Tuileries Palace. December 20, 1812.

State councilors, whenever I enter France, my heart feels a great deal of satisfaction. If the people show so much love for my son, it is because he is convinced, by sentiment, of the benefits of the monarchy.

It is to the ideology, to this dark metaphysics which, by subtly seeking out the root causes, wishes on these bases to found the legislation of the peoples, instead of appropriating the laws to the knowledge of the human heart and the lessons of the world. history, which must be attributed to all the misfortunes experienced by our beautiful France. These errors must and have actually brought about the regime of the men of blood. Indeed, who proclaimed the principle of insurrection as a duty? who worshiped the people by proclaiming him to a sovereignty he was incapable of exercising? who destroyed the respect and sanctity of the laws, making them depend, not on the sacred principles of justice, the nature of things and civil justice, but only on the will of an assembly composed of foreign men. knowledge of civil, criminal, administrative, political and military laws?

When one is called to regenerate a state, these are constantly opposed principles that must be followed. History paints the human heart; it is in history that the advantages and disadvantages of the different legislations must be sought. These are the principles which the Council of State of a great empire must never lose sight of; he must add courage to any test, and, like the presidents Harlay and Mole, be ready to perish by defending the sovereign, the throne, and the laws.

I appreciate the evidence of attachment that the Council of State has given me in all circumstances. I agree with his feelings.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of December 21, 1812.

19391. - NOTES DICTATED IN THE COUNCIL OF FINANCE.

Palace of the Tuileries, December 22, 1812.

The Minister of Finance will write to the Minister of Commerce to inform him that he must submit to him within the week the overviews of extraordinary customs duties, so that it can be used in the preparation of the budget of 1813:

"Her Majesty has disposed of 141 million, including the 40 brought in the budget of 1812, and without understanding what belongs to the domain[343]

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extraordinary and what belongs to the special budget of Danzig and other special budgets. As His Majesty has ascertained, by glancing at your report, that the rights which belong to the treasure are not confounded with the special budgets, it is necessary that you make note in your first memoir of these different provisions. From your letter of December 8th it appears that 129,500,000 francs have been collected, out of which 12 millions for expenses; that will only make 117 millions applicable to the public treasury, to satisfy the various credits; there will therefore remain 24 million to be able to suffice for all credits. Are you assured of these 24 millions, either by the sales of Italy, or by those to be made in Mainz, or by what remains to be recovered, or by what exists in Holland and elsewhere belonging to recipes of this kind? His Majesty thinks that the ordinary duties must make over $ 24 million, and he is relying on the amount of licenses he has given. But, next year, he will need $ 150 million in royalties, either ordinary or extraordinary; he instructs me to write to you that you must draw up a memoir on this object and bring it to the council of finances of Tuesday, where you must attend from now on. To arrive at this result, it is necessary for you to consider what remains to be perceived on the licenses delivered and those which it will be necessary to give to reach this result necessary by the first of the considerations, that to have what is essential for the present service. We must probably harm our enemies, but first of all we must live, and the Emperor thinks that 150 millions over such a vast expanse of country must not be difficult to find."

On the tobacco article, the Emperor dictated the following:

By the report of the Minister of Finance I see that tobacco has made this year only 43 million, with trade costs of 26 million; it would be advisable to have a detailed memorandum of the régie, in order to inquire whether we can not diminish these expenses and remove what is useless. For next year, we present 30 million recipes with 23 refunds, which is 53 million. It would be necessary to bring, next Tuesday, an account which made known the quantity of dead funds which the management constantly needs. I see first $ 5 million for the purchase of manufactured materials; but what is the quantity of leaves she must have? I see it for 90 million this year. The purpose of this information would be to establish a regular system for tobacco control. As soon as we have agreed on the amount of funds it needs in advance, we would take[344]

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a number of years to repay this fund, so that the current service does not suffer. Of all types of loan, the one for tobacco must be the easiest to fill, because it has a natural mortgage line. My goal would be to use tobacco for 20 million more in the years we need it; thus, next year, which seems a difficult year, I will remedy by this loan with 23 million refunds, in order to have, instead of 54 million that presents the Minister of Finance, 70 or 80 million, namely: the 54 million offered by the Minister of Finance and the 23 reimbursement, so that the budget of 1813 will be 150 million customs and 80 million tobacco. It will be objected that I still have the funds due to the tobacco, but, wanting to make a system of borrowing for the 78 million on which the control is based, which will be reimbursed in six or seven years, at the rate of 10 millions per year. it will be, in fact, a loan of twenty millions which I will make for the year 1812; and I see that it is easier to make a loan thus disguised than to open a new one.

After recognizing in the 1812 budget a deficit of 41 millions of receipts, and in that of 1811 a deficit of 15 millions, and considering the demands of his ministers in increase of credit, both for 1811 and for 1812, the Emperor dictated the following note:

It follows from all this that I need 26 millions to fill the budget of 1811, 40 millions for 1812, total 66 millions; as for the expenditure of ministers above the budget, we do not have to deal with 1812, which is the current exercise, and which the ministers do not yet know; they all have a reserve fund, and the Minister of Finance has 18 million in reserve. All is therefore to distribute by a next decree these 18 million, which will make us complete the year. In the course of August and September, we will see the supplementary statutory appropriations. For 1811, it will be sufficient to distribute the reserve fund of 8,680,000 plus what the ministers may yield. I do not give anything to the navy. The administration of war demands 19 millions; I have 8, which makes me almost bound; that will lead to finish the year. Consequently, with some provisions of finances to be taken immediately, one will provide all the service during the year; you just have to fill the budget as a recipe.

I would like the Minister of Finance to add to his report all that is relative to the subsistence of Paris, by addressing the necessary information to the Minister of Commerce. I see there is[345]

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a deficit of 14 million. The Minister of Finance will write to the Minister of Commerce, so that he may bring very precise information on this point on Tuesday, so as to make known the state of our finances.

This year I ordered different arrangements to come to the aid of the unfortunate. The Minister of Finance will give me a report and let me know if I have anything to do with it. He will go to the Minister of the Interior to find out what the departments owe to the finances and the sinking fund.

The Emperor then examined the revenue budget of 1813, submitted to him by the Minister of Finance, and he decided that the budget should be fixed as the minister presented it, with the modifications indicated by the Emperor to the articles. Customs and Tobacco, which must bring the entire budget to 1 billion 30 or 40 million.

The Emperor finished the session by dictating the following note, to be executed by the Minister of the Treasury:

I must know all my resources well: public treasure, extraordinary domain, sinking fund, that's what composes them. I must, therefore, be well acquainted with the situation of these three caisses. I see that 68 million has been lent to the Tobacco Board; the extraordinary estate and the bank made this loan. There are 81 million sums of the sinking fund to be repaid, so 149 million have been lent. I want to know what I have to pay back each year on this 149 million. Count Mollien will give me a banker's report on all these loans and debts. The 22 millions in the hands of M. de la Beuillerie can not give me anxiety; but I can not count on that as a resource,

When do I have to repay what has been given to the Bank? Finally what are the means of the sinking fund? This is what will make me see all the means and find what is necessary to complete the budgets of 1811 and 1812, This report should be brought to the council on Tuesday.

According to the copy. Finance Archives.

19392, - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNTY DECRÈS, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Paris, December 23, 1812.

Count Decres, I wish you to land all the men of the land who serve as garrisons indiscriminately[346]

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in your ships, because these men will serve me for the active army.

From the minute, archives of the Empire.

19393, - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNTY DECRÈS,
MINISTER OF THE MARINE, PARIS

Paris, December 24, 1812,

As I must hold the advice of the engineers in the course of January, I beg you to order that the harbor of the island of Aix, the mouths of the Gironde, Brest, the mouths of the Scheldt, the coasts from Hamburg, as well as from Toulon, information is sent to you on the works of fortification made this year, on the batteries which exist, on their armament, and on what the sailors would like us to do again.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19394. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNT DECRÈS,
MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS,

Paris. December 24, 1812.

I am sending you your report of September 1st. I would like you to present me a new copy of which you will find attached the project (l), Give me this contribution tomorrow with the two states that you must have, for me to have these parts inserted in the monitor In addition, present me with a draft reply to the letter of the English Government to inform it that I adhere to the proposal to renew the negotiation for the exchange of prisoners; of course that the Spaniards and the Portuguese will be considered in a general exchange as English; that consequently you will expect passports for a French commissioner who will be sent to such point of England that it will please the British government, to work on this exchange; that we can not conceive of any hope of succeeding in this negotiation unless we remind ourselves of this sentence of their letter of the 10th of March: "that we shall find, on the part of their country, the most sincere desire to carry, by all the means of conciliation and liberality possible, the negotiation to a prompt and advantageous conclusion."

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

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1) Draft report on the French prisoners escaped from England they English prisoners evades from France, (Note of the minute.)[347]

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19395. - TO THE GENERAL LACUEE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. December 24, 1812.

Count de Cessac, I refer you your report of the 27th of November; I do not think it expedient to sign a new decree, since I have signed one for 4,700 horses, and the one you ask for is 4,800; the difference is not great, so you can easily buy 4,800 horses and take all the necessary steps to speed up the timing of their delivery, as well as for their distribution. If I do not sign this decree, it is because I wish to sign another which extends this measure and gives me in France what to go back to all the 5th squadrons.

I have fourteen regiments of cuirassiers and carabineers, which would make fourteen squadrons of 200 horses, that is to say, 2,800 horses; four 5th squadrons of dragons, 800 horses; eight 5th light horse squadrons (I suppose the light horse regiments have their 5th squadrons), 1,600 horses; seventeen 5th squadrons of chasseurs, 3,400 horses; six 5th squadrons of hussars, including those with more than one squadron, 1,500 horses; which is about 10,000 horses.

You already have 4,800 horses insured by markets; it would therefore still be 5,200 to be procured, either by markets or by requisitions.

As for men, where I will give them to the cavalry, or I will bring them from those who are dismounted at the Grand Army; but certainly, in the shortage of horses where the Grande Armée is, France can not furnish less than 10 to 2,000 horses.

I do not understand here the work of the Spanish army. We must mount all the men on foot that we have in the depots, either to send them to the Grande Armée, or to send them to Spain.

Give me a report on that; I do not think there can be any difficulty in requiring 30,000 horses, half cavalry and half draft in France; but I beg you not to lose yourself in small differences, to squeeze the horse supplies, the making up of harnesses and all that is necessary, so that soon what I have on foot can walk, and have, without losing one moment, as many horses as possible. I count on these 4,800 horses, equipped and in the case of leaving in the course of February. As soon as the Grand Army has taken up its winter quarters, we will have been able to gather the[348]

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and see the losses, I will see whether to give new men to his 5th squadrons, or to bring men on foot from the regiments of the army.

As for the men who must complete the eight squadrons of Hamburg, you must procure horses from France. I even sent out all the horses available from these eight squadrons, to get closer to the Vistula; my intention is to give them to the dismounted dragoons who were part of the Grand Army, and to send the men from the squadrons of Hamburg back on foot to recover later,

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19396. - IN THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KOENIGSBERG.

Paris. December 24, 1812.

My Cousin, the King of Saxony has a handsome regiment of 800 cuirassiers, ready to leave as soon as the regiment of the bodyguards, which was at the division Latour-Maubourg) will be on the march. Have all the men on foot march for Glogau, and send him to Baron Serra, so that the other regiment of cuirassiers may approach Posen. There was in the vanguard a regiment of light Saxon cavalry; make him also get closer to Posen; the King of Saxony will send him horses and will replenish him.

I suppose that General Bourcier will have sent men on foot to Hanover, where they are badly needed, for I have stopped all the men on foot who were sent from France, and I will bring them back with horses from France.

I have already sent you to send as many cadres of the regiments of the young Guard as you can; Return cadres from four or six regiments, incorporating all available men into the remaining Young Guard cadres. This would remove the Delaborde division and reduce the two-division Guard. I also believe that the Dutch regiment (the 3rd Grenadier) could be dismissed by incorporating the men into the two regiments of chasseurs and gendarmes; Finally, I wish that all the elite gendarmes who are on foot be sent back to Mayence, as well as the hunters, dragoons and grenadiers who would no longer have horses. The Duke of Istria would also send back cadres, so that on his arrival at Mainz this part of the Guard would be entirely reorganized and formed several squadrons.[349]

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I appeal here to the remount of the Guard by purchases made in France; By this means, all the horses that will be fired from Germany will be for the army. Thus the mounted grenadiers had a strength of 1,000 men, I suppose they will have kept 800. If they have in the army only 400 men with horses, either in condition or to remake, and that 400 men on foot, the Duke of Istria will send half of the cadres with the men on foot to Mainz, and so on for the dragons and the chasseurs. Assuming that these troops will have arrived at Mainz in February, as they will find horses and the effects of clothing and equipment, it will be troops quite available to operate according to the circumstances.

It would be proper to keep at the Grand Army only half of the cavalry generals, and to send the others back to France, where I complete and remount all the 5th squadrons, which will make me 12,000 horses in the month of February. I have already sent you to send back as soon as possible the cadres of the 4th, 5th and 6th battalions.

I am anxiously waiting for you to take a position on the state of the corps, especially as regards artillery, train battalions, military crews, and cavalry.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19397. - TO THE GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, December 25, 1812.

Count de Cessac, I receive your letter of December 24th. The 246 1st and 2nd model wagons that exist either in Sampigny, Plaisance or Mainz must be considered as non avenues and can not serve us anything.

The old model boxes have done a good service, so you can count as useful the 647 that you have; with the forges, there is enough to mount three battalions. If the wagons of the new model weigh, as you say, only 500 pounds and carry a thousand, that would only total a weight of 1,500 pounds: two good horses are enough. I think that by making three battalions, each of 600 wagons, that would be 1,200 horses per battalion, or 1,800 wagons and 3,600 horses for the three battalions. With three battalions of old model, that would make 720 wagons and 2,600 horses. In total, that would make 2,520 wagons and 6,200 horses, which would require about 4,000 men.

How many men do you have in the depots? the 1,800 wagons[350]

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each carrying 10 quintals or together 18 thousand, the 720 cars each carrying 15 quintals or 10 thousand, that would be 28 thousand or 240,000 for twenty days,

In Konigsberg and Danzig I have well-fitted workshops which could also supply from 12 to 1800 wagons; the horses would be bought at Danzig, the men are there and the wagons would be there. By means of this, there would be three battalions of the old model and three of the new, forming 2,600 wagons, 6,500 horses, and 4,000 men drawn from France; plus, three battalions forming 1,800 new model wagons, 3,600 horses and 2,000 men, which would be drawn from Germany or Danzig, which would make 9 battalions, 1,400 wagons, 10 to 11, 000 horses and 6 to 7,000 men.

A great horse can very well drag 6 to 700 pounds; the cars of the new model weighing only 1,000 pounds for loading and 500 pounds for the weight of the wagons, which would make 1,500 pounds, it is only 750 pounds per horse, which is not excessive. If there were four horses, it would require wagons weighing 4,000 pounds, that is, 3,000 loads and 1,000 for the wagons. The old caisson weighs 1,900, and carries, I believe, only a load of 1,500; so the weight of the wagons seems to me too strong.

I think that, in order not to waste time, it would be necessary to start by organizing two temporary battalions at Sampigny. The 45 old model trolleys, the 386 caissons and the 20 forges located there would make 450 wagons; it takes 480 to complete two battalions:

A battalion could be formed at Plaisance with the 239 old model caissons and the 8 forges there. See where you will take the men, the harnesses and the horses.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19398, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Paris. December 25, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, write to the Duke of Castiglione to retain the Grenier Division in Berlin, taking care to take effective measures to ensure that it is well-guarded and well-fed, and to do what is suitable for organizing its artillery, his military crews and his entire administration.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.[351]

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19399. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE NARBONNE, IN MISSION TO BERLIN.

Paris, December 26, 1812.

Count de Narbonne, I received your letter of the 21st.

As soon as you have completed your mission in Berlin, you will go to Paris. Go through Magdeburg; see this place carefully, so as to be well aware of it. Then pass by Cassel, where you will stay five to six days; see the spirit, what is done there, and if one thinks seriously of reorganizing the Westphalian army and defending well Magdeburg. In conversation, remember that in all this the King of Westphalia is at the forefront.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19400. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, December 26, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, put in the Moniteur all the different requests made by the cohorts to be employed in the army.

Those of Piedmont made me the same offer. I see, by a letter of today, that there are five who write from Hamburg.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19401. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, December 26, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Feltre, I receive even letter of December 14 on the reorganization of the artillery crews. It will be necessary for General Gassendi and Colonel Evans to come to my house with all their states, to write under my dictation what will be relative to this work. You will let me know when these officers have gathered all their information and will be ready. We must consider all the artillery of the cavalry, that of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th corps as lost. Only the artillery of the divisions Heudelet, Loison, Durutte, Lagrange and Grenier remain available. Colonel Evans will bring me the state of the artillery of these five divisions. He will have to verify in the correspondence whether the material of the Durutte and Loison divisions has not been taken from what existed at Gdansk. After that, I will prescribe the measures to be taken to ensure that all the losses are entirely replaced, so that I have[352]

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not only a crew like that lost by the Grand Army, but another one in replacement, if the first was lost.

If necessary, I will order that my naval arsenals work with the artillery crews; I prefer that to requisitions. One or two vessels more or less are of no influence in the balance of affairs, while the slightest lack of artillery can be very prejudicial to me. I suppose the navy is in the case of making me as many boxes as I want. Without saying anything, Gassendi and Colonel Evans will take some information on this. The reserve of the Guard must be of 120 pieces of cannon, independently of what one can provisionally provide him in the towns of the North. It is necessary that the Guard, assembled at the Fere, 120 pieces of cannon absolutely similar to what it had at the first formation I made.

As for the battalions of the train and the personnel of the artillery, the army rallied on the Vistula; it is only in the course of January that it will be rallied there, and that one will be able to know the losses which have been leaked and to get an idea of the situation of the Grande Armée.

It would be proper to do a job tending to recall as many general and superior officers of artillery as possible, by replacing them with others, of those who remained in France.

Meanwhile, you must not lose a moment to order that in all the arsenals the carts are put in state, the caissons repaired, and that everywhere caissons are made. You must not lose a moment in directing from all points of the coast, especially from Normandy and Brittany, on the Fere all the necessary parts to form a crew of 120 guns. In this first moment, my intention is not to give regimental pieces to those who have lost them. Colonel Evans will understand in his states the artillery which one has at Hamburg, and in general will bring me the state of all that exists on all points.

My intention is to provide for the organization of an observation corps of the Elbe, of three divisions, in need of sixty pieces of cannon, as well as another corps of observation of the Rhine of the same strength; My intention, I say, is to provide these two corps without resorting in any way to the artillery of the Grand Army, nor for the artillery on horseback, nor for the personnel, nor for the materiel. The main thing is that you do not waste a moment ordering in all arsenals the making of boxes and the repair of all carts and cars that exist.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[353]

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19402. - TO POPE PIE VII, AT THE PALACE OF FONTAINEBLEAU.

Paris, December 29, 1812.

Most Holy Father, I hasten to send an officer of my House to your Holiness to express to him the satisfaction I felt at what the bishop of Nantes told me about the good state of his health. because I was very alarmed this summer when I learned that he had been severely indisposed. The new stay of Your Holiness will enable us to see each other, and I am very anxious to tell him that, in spite of all the events that have taken place, I have always maintained the same friendship for him. Perhaps we will achieve the much desired goal of ending all disputes that divide the state and the church. For my part, I am very disposed, and that will depend entirely on Your Holiness. Nevertheless, I beg her to believe that the sentiments of perfect esteem and consideration which I bear her are independent of every event and circumstance.

Most holy Father, I pray to God that he will preserve you for many years, so that you may have the glory of resuming the government of the Church, and that you may long enjoy and enjoy your work.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19403. - A FRÉDERIC-AUGUSTE, KING OF SAXONY, IN DRESDEN.

Paris, December 29, 1812.

I receive your Majesty's letter of December 16th. I regretted that the speed of my trip made the moments I could stop near him so short. May your Majesty never doubt my esteem and all my feelings.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19404. - TO THE GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, December 29, 1812.

Comte de Cessac, as the states of the Grand Army will be slow to come, it seems urgent to me not to lose a moment. I have therefore adopted your proposal, and I have issued a decree, in consequence of which you must immediately create four battalions of crews; two will serve as caissons of old model, at the rate of five companies per battalion, wishing to keep a company, the 6th, at the depot, the two other battalions will serve wagons to the Comtoise. Each[354]

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company will serve 100 wagons; thus, for the first five companies of these two battalions, that will make 1,000 wagons. And that will make us, for the four battalions, 1,400 cars. We will be in time, within six weeks, to make arrangements for the 6th companies. I think that the battalions I recall from the army will come in half or two-thirds; in the course of January we shall know what to expect, but nevertheless I wish that in the course of January there will be 200 men existing at each of these battalions; take steps accordingly, and place a few officers there, so that the organization is not late. This organization must be independent of what can happen to us from the Grand Army, and if nothing happens, we can none the less complete our organization and have it at our disposal.

You will order the Intendant of the Grand Army to immediately organize two battalions at Danzig, two at Berlin, and the others at Berlin, Posen, Glogau, and Magdeburg. As it will necessarily happen that the battalions will have lost a great deal, you will authorize them to reduce them to three or four companies, according to the losses they have made. Besides, the main thing is that one does not lose a moment in Danzig or elsewhere to make wagons in the Comtoise, and as soon as the states of situation have arrived, I will adopt a definite party. It is necessary above all that, independently of the Grand Army and all, I have here in the shortest time these 1,400 to 1,700 wagons.

The artillery must buy about 8,000 horses for its return; I have given you 10,000 for the cavalry; with the 4,000 military transports, that will make 22,000 horses. Have a consultation with the Minister of War to find out whether a levy will be necessary to obtain this number, or whether it will be sufficient to resort to purchases.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19405. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. December 29, 1812.

Mr. Duke de Feltre, it is my intention that the 5 squadrons of the 51 cavalry regiments that are at the Grande Armée be reassembled to their full, so that they all have 225 horses and that they can provide at least 200 men mounted in the countryside; which will make a resource of 10,000 horses for spring.[355]

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It is necessary that you write to the Grand Army to order that any officer and non-commissioned officer belonging to the 5th squadrons be dismissed without delay, and that furthermore you take measures to complete the officers and non-commissioned officers of these 5th squadrons. Finally, you will propose ways to complete these 5 squadrons as men, so as to bring them to 250 men.

There is, I believe, in all, in the depots 5,000 men; therefore 4 or 5,000 are missing; but these 4 or 5,000 will be drawn from cohorts or regiments of infantry, if, however, the number of men on foot of the regiments who are in the army was so diminished that it could not be drawn from them. Make the state of what is missing at each 5th Squadron, and write to Count Daru and General Bourcier to let them know what I have just ordered and ask them to direct on the depots, for the 5th squadrons, such number of men by regiment, assuming, however, that there are enough men on foot to regiment to receive the returns of General Bourcier.

So, in France, I need 10,000 cavalry horses.

By this day's decree, I order that four battalions of military crews be brought up, which will not require 4,000 horses. The artillery will need, to recover, of 8,000 horses. This makes a rise of 22,000 horses, regardless of the returns of the cavalry of the Army of Spain and those of the Guard. I wish you to confer with the Minister of the Administration of War, to know whether it will be easier to procure this number of horses with money than by raising them all over France.

However, I do not wish to lose a moment to raise the artillery horses. Several horse suppliers have asked to link this operation with another on colonial goods. Bring me to the council their proposals; if they only consist in obtaining the preference for license operations, I would not see any difficulty in granting them.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19406. - DECISION.

Paris. December 29, 1812.

The Minister of the Navy asks if the intention of the Emperor is that French armaments be allowed in the ports of the United States of America.	The minister does not make known what is for and against this proposal.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Naval Archives. [356]

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19407. - A JOACHIM NAPOLEON, KING OF THE TWO SICILIES COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KOENGSBERG.

Paris. December 30, 1812.

I have received your letter of the 20th. I see with much difficulty the extreme cold which it still makes on the side of Konigsberg. I am anxious to know the exact situation of the army.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19408. - IN THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KOENIGSBERG.

Paris. December 30, 1812.

My Cousin, I received your letter of the 21st; I have also received your note of actual losses. I am going to think about it seriously. I signed the decree for General Laville. I learned with great sadness the death of La Riboisiere.

I have just raised 15,000 cavalry horses which will be returned to the 51 depots or 5th squadrons of the Grand Army cavalry regiments during January and February. I also raised 8,000 artillery and 4,000 military crews; all this in the interior of France and regardless of what you do in Germany.

Send us all the cadres of the 4th and 6th battalions. Keep five or six battalions of military crews, and send back the others, including the 2nd and 6th, and two battalions to the Comtoise, because I took all the measures to have, in the course of February, the wagons, the horses and all that is necessary for these four battalions.

Send us some battalions of the artillery train; all the work of the artillery is done; there is a great deal of material in Prussia, at Danzig, and in the forts; Eblé must think about it.

The conscription of this year is very beautiful; I had on Sunday a parade of about 25 to 30,000 men.

I asked you the cadres of several regiments of my young Guard. Send me all the men on foot from my guard on horseback; it would be difficult to trace them back to Germany, while I am sure to assemble them promptly in France; I already wrote you on that.[357]

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I long to have statements to know the full extent of our losses.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19409. -. GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. December 30, 1812.

I hasten to answer your letter of the 29th. Immediately return the 325 men of the train who are at Toulouse; bring them back to Grenoble. Return to Tours the 777 that are in Auch. I am very much in favor of a contract for 3,000 horses, but that is not enough; it is necessary to pass without delay for 8,000 to deliver to Tours, Grenoble, Metz, Maestricht, Douai, Besancon, Mainz and La Fere.

On the 15th of January, you will propose me or the order to supply 3,000 men necessary to complete your companies and put them in a position to receive these 8,000 horses, or the order to bring back these 3,000 men of the Grand Army. I hope that January 15 we will have situation reports, which will clarify everything. As I will take these men to supply the artillery train in the depot cities that are closest to the cadres, it is an operation that can be done in eight days.

Write promptly to the Grande Armée to let you know what has remained of the train and to send you the status reports. But, one way or another, I need at the end of February the 8,000 horses returned to the depots, with 8,000 harnesses, so that in the course of February the first convoys can leave, and the last in the course of March.

Present me as soon as possible the stall of what is necessary to buy for the deposit of the Imperial Guard at La Fere. I wish to buy 1,500 horses for La Fere; I will draw the men from the conscripts provided to the Guard. Let me know if there is a crewmember and when we can have the 2 or 300 wagons to harness with these 1,500 horses.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[358]

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19410. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, December 30, 1812.

Duke de Feltre, the Grand Army will be organized as follows:

The 1st corps, commanded by Prince Eckmühl, will be composed of three divisions, each division of five regiments, each regiment of three battalions; the cadres of the 4th and 5th battalions will be sent back to France; the Prince of Neuchâtel will attach to each of them one of the three generals whom he has chosen. Each division will have its general, his adjutant-commander and three brigade generals.

The 2nd corps will be composed of two divisions instead of three; the 3rd corps will be composed of two divisions instead of three, the 4th corps will be composed of two divisions instead of three; the 9th corps will be suppressed, and the regiments which were part of it, and who are foreigners, will join their different nations: Westphalians to Westphalians, Saxons to Saxons, Wurtembergers to Wurtembergers. The French will be incorporated into the divisions that will need it most.

All French regiments will be reduced to three battalions; executives of the 4th and 5th will be sent back to France.

The divisions Heudelet and Loison will remain as they are; they will be attached to the different corps until we know the state of situation of what the Great Army has rallied on the Vistula.

The Westphalians will form a division, the Bavarians a division, the Wurtembergers line division, which will form three divisions, The Poles will form three divisions; the 5th corps or the Polish corps will form its division. The organization of the Bavarian, Westphalian and Württemberg corps will be decided at a later date, when the state of the situation is known. The four regiments of the Vistula Legion will form a division and will be attached to the 8th corps.

This organization will be definitively modified as soon as the state of the situation of what the army has rallied on the Vistula. It is necessary, however, to fix this first base, in order to stop the organization of artillery and engineering.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

END OF THE YEAR 1812.[359]

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YEAR 1813.

19411. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 3, 1813.

The King of Spain asking that the Duke of Dalmatia be recalled to Paris, and this marshal also asking for it, or at least to return there by leave, send him a special leave of absence to return to Paris. General Gazan or Marshal Jourdan will take the command of his corps. It will be necessary to send these orders by duplicate and triplicate.

Make known to the King, by writing to him in figures, that in the present circumstances I think that he must place his headquarters at Valladolid; that the 29th Bulletin will have informed him of the state of the affairs of the North, which require our care and our efforts, that he may make Madrid occupy one end of the line, but that his headquarters must be at Valladolid, and that it must apply to take advantage of the inaction of the English to pacify Navarre, Biscay and the province of Santander.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19412. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 3, 1813.

I send you a decree on the artillery of my Guard. I wish to have four batteries on foot, and two on horseback forming forty-four guns, which will be hitched by 1,500 horses, which must be bought on the spot. You will bring the cadets of the companies to be drawn from the Grand Army. As it will be necessary for a superior officer to command them, General Sorbier will appoint the one he deems fit.

The 400 men required for the four companies on foot will be drawn from the cohorts, taking care not to take Belgians, Dutch or new units of Italy. The artillery depot of the Guard, which is at Mainz, must return immediately to La Fere. Officers can return to work.

As for the horse artillery, I suppose the artillery depots[360]

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on horseback could provide men; if necessary, it will be possible to supply and draw from the cohorts of national guards, taking those who know the horses. It will be necessary (what will not be long to know) to wait for the losses of the artillery until its arrival on the Vistula, for the organization of the surplus of the crew.

You will charge General d'Aboville with the organization of the six batteries for this to be done promptly. It will gather at the Fere, with the deposit which returns from Mainz, the company of artillery of veterans. Men will be sent from Spain. We must ensure that the six batteries are ready by February 15.

As soon as we know the situation of the artillery of the Guard who is in the army, there will be other measures to take, in order not to waste time to execute my decree.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19413. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIOUL, GRAND MARSHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS

Paris, January 3, 1813.

The Guard has lost all its crews; it is therefore necessary to reform them. Give me a report on that; but it is essential to adopt a model of wagon lighter than those she had.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.

19414. - DECISION.

SIRE,

There exists in Paris, rue des Trois-Freres, No. 4, a gunsmith named Pauly, who is inventor of a rifle own the use of troops, which seems an extremely advantageous discovery.

On the advice I have that we were trying to buy him his secret, I made him come and had him bring his weapon. In my presence, in my garden, he shot twenty-two shots in two minutes. I was so surprised that I asked him if General Gassendi, of the artillery committee, had seen this discovery. He said yes, but he did not hear about it anymore, and he was in need. I then took it upon myself to ask him for his rifle, which I send to your Majesty's cabinet, because it seemed to me worthy of his curiosity.

Sir Pauly told me that this gun would not cost more than the infantry; it weighs a quarter less, and the bullet cartridge is only two-fifths of that of the infantry. All accidents to which the infantry rifle is exposed by rain, primer, etc., are avoided by[361]

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one. The only precaution that must be taken before firing is to raise the dog to rest before loading. I beg your Majesty's pardon, but the experience I saw at home made me enthusiastic about this weapon, especially for pistols, which are so difficult to reload in the cavalry.

THE DUKE OF ROVIGO.
Paris, the .... January 1813.

Paris. January 3, 1813.

Returned to the Duke of Friuli to summon the inventor. See this rifle with Artillery officers of the Guard, have it tested and report to me (1.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Imperial Library.

19115. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 3, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, 17,000 men to strengthen the cohorts, it is necessary to give immediate orders to do this lifting, so that all cohorts are completed.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19416. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 4, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, order that the battalion of the 113th which is with the army of the North of Spain returns to its deposit in Orleans. Give the same order for the 4th Swiss Regiment.

There is to the Army of the North a first marching regiment of Portugal of 2,800 men, a second of 2,000 men and a third of 1,500; total of these three regiments of march, 6,300. You will give order without delay to Generals Caffarelli and Reille to make the following move: General Reille will send back to the Army of the North three regiments making at least 5,000 men, and General Caffarelli will send to the Army of Portugal the three regiments of march, of 6,000 men, which will be dissolved immediately after their arrival at the army of Portugal. The cadres who belong to the 5th Battalions would return immediately to France.

There is also to the North Army a first marching regiment,

1) His Majesty saw this rifle at Gros-Bois on January 19, 1813. (Note of the original.)[362]

of the army of the south, of 2,300 men: order that this regiment of march of 2,300 men should go to the army of the south, to be incorporated, each detachment to join his regiment; and that in place the Army of the South sends to the Army of the North a regiment of three battalions. By these dispositions, the Army of the North will lose four provisional regiments, from 8 to 9,000 men, and will gain four well organized regiments.

There are two mounted horse artillery companies of the 4th and 6th regiments in the North Army: send them on the spot; we do not need it elsewhere.

MIDDLE ARMY

Order that we return without delay and that we set out for France, twenty-four hours after the reception of your orders, the following executives, to the full, namely: the cadres of the 3 " battalions of 24 ", 96", 8 ", 51st, 54" line; the 3rd battalion of the 27th light, the 3rd battalions of the 63rd, 94th, 95th line, the 4th battalion of the 32nd line; the 3 battalions of the 43 ° and 55 "line; the 4th battalion of the 58th line; the 3rd battalion of the 12th light; the 3rd battalion of the 45th line, the 3rd battalions of the 28th and 21st light; the 3rd battalions of the 1000 and 64th line, the 40th battalion of the 103rd line, which makes twenty battalion cadres to be fired from the Army of the South. These cadres, at 120 men per battalion, will make more than 2,000 men, who will leave in two columns.

You will also leave the 1st and 2nd crew of the flotilla and the 3rd battalion of the naval workers, now useless to this army, which will make another column of 2,000 men.

Order also that the complete squadrons of the following squadrons be sent out, namely: the cadre of the 3rd squadron of the 2nd hussars; the 3rd and 4th squadrons of the 10th chasseurs, the 3rd squadrons of the 21st, 5th and 27th chasseurs, the 4th squadron of the 14th of dragoons; 3rd Squadron 17th of Dragons; the 4th squadron of the 27th of dragoons, the 3 squadron of the 12th of dragoons, the 1st squadrons of the 16th and the 21st of the dragoons, and the eleven squadrons will make another column of 5 to 600 men. therefore about 5,000 men who will return from the Army of the South.

Reiterate the orders so that all men on foot from the horse and artillery train that could not be returned to the country follow this column. Have this work done by your offices to remove entire frames from the train. I see that the army of the South, for 2,800 horses, has nearly 3,000 men of the train.[363]

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Also bring back some officers of artillery and engineering, who are too numerous to this army.

Also bring from the Central Army the 3rd squadron of 18" dragoons; the 3rd of the 22nd of the dragoons in the 3rd battalion of the 4th of the Italian line, the cadre of the 2nd battalion of the 6th line; the framework of the 3rd battalion of the 2nd light, and that of the 2nd squadron of the Napoleon dragoons. Get all the soldiers on foot from the train and the military crews, which are useless. Have some very precise work done in the offices. Bring in the frame of the 3rd Battalion 120 "; a squadron of the 28th of chasseurs, and finally let all the men of the train and artillery on horseback, who are on foot.

ARMY OF ARAGON.

Bring in the cadre of the 3rd Battalion of the 3rd Light, the 4th Battalion of the 20th, and also bring back from Aragon a large number of men of artillery crews and military crews who have not been mounted.

ARMY OF CATALONIA.

Finally, let return from the army of Catalonia as many battalion cadres as necessary to leave the cadres of the first battalions to the strength of 840 men.

Order that the Westphalian light infantry and the two companies of artillery which are with the army of Catalonia leave without delay to go to Cassel. Order also the 3d Battalion of the Grand Duchy of Berg to return to the Grand Duchy.

In all these armies there are many officers, many horsemen on foot, many men of military arms, many men of artillery arms, perfectly useless: return all this to France.

Remove from the armies of Spain four companies of horse artillery; just leave eight. By removing the men from the train and the crews, the companies would have to be tightened in order to bring back whole cadres. These different measures will make available the cadres we will need to receive the conscription of 1814, and will also have the advantage of greatly reducing the maintenance costs of the Spanish army. Let me know all the orders you give for this object; send them by triplicate, and send for this purpose several aides-de-camp to the King.

It is my intention that all the marching regiments should be dissolved, and that each detachment should join his corps by doing, as I told you earlier, exchanges between the armies.[364]

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It is essential to take advantage of the winter to make all these movements. If I had forgotten a few, give me the note under the wishes.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19417. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 4th, 1813.

I have just ordered by a decree that the thirty-four squadrons of the army of Spain and the seven squadrons of the same army which are in France, should be completed with 250 men and 250 horses; which will make me two fine cavalry divisions of the force of more than 7,000 horses. I think that the depots of the cavalry regiments of the Army of Spain have to receive men on foot who are sent back to them from squadrons of war; however, the number can not be as great as what will be sent to the. Cavalry depots of the Grande Armée; it seems to me, therefore, that it is necessary to furnish them at once with means of recruitment. Forty squadron cadres (about the number of the 3 and 4 squadrons of the Army of Spain who are in France) must comprise, at the rate of 250 men per squadron, about 9,000 men; There is only 4,000 in the depots: it is therefore 5,000 to get, offer me a call of 2,500 men, that is to say, half of what is necessary. This call would be made on-the- a field in the depots of the corps nearest to the places where these 40 squadrons are, which from 4,000 men would bring to 6,500 the number of available men of the cavalry.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19418. - TO GENERAL CARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Paris. January 4, 1813.

Independently of the artillery crews which have been organized, a crew of 54 guns, plus 16 Italian pieces and 70 pieces, will be formed for the observation corps of Italy; five divisions of artillery on foot, one on horseback, two on reserve. This will require 1,500 horses and the value of a train battalion. The[365]

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horses may be required in the Illyrian provinces for a fixed price. Carniola and Carinthia can easily supply 2,500 horses, 1,500 for artillery and 6,700 for military transport. Give me a draft for this crew, and give the orders without delay. Designate staff and equipment. Direct the cadres of the three companies of the battalion of the artillery train that were with the 4th corps; the men will be placed in the other companies. Executives will come to post, and with the company at Verona will make four companies; you will increase the number if necessary. If the Illyrian provinces could not supply the 2,500 horses, you would have the Minister of the Interior hand over the state of the provinces of Italy where there are horses, and you would draw a certain number, for a fixed price to arrive quickly to have these 2,500 horses. As for the men necessary, propose to me to take some from the depots of the regiments which are in Italy.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19419. - TO GENERAL RAPP, GOVERNOR OF DANZIG.

Paris, January 4th, 1813.

I receive your letter of December 22nd. Danzig must be supplied and armed so that he can remain isolated for six months and surrounded. I am assembling four army corps which will make 300,000 men, independently of the Grand Army. If ever the case happened you were surrounded, I will come and release you. Take care to gather all the necessary supplies.

According to the minute, Archive the Empire.

19420.-To M. MELZI, DUKE OF LODI, GREAT CHANCELLOR OF THE ROVAUME OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Paris, January 4th, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Lodi, please send me the situation of my Italian army, detailed enough so that I know the situation of the corps and the depots on January 1st, as well as the personnel, the material and the artillery carriages.

My intention is to gather an observation corps from Italy to Verona before the end of February. This corps, of which I give the command to General Bertrand, governor of the Illyrian provinces,[366]

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will consist of three divisions, each of twelve battalions. The first two divisions will be composed of French troops and the third of Italian troops. You must provide for this purpose eight complete battalions and take care that there is in these battalions no conscript of 1813, as much as possible. The kingdom of Naples will furnish two battalions, and I will join two cohorts or two French battalions to complete the strength of this division to twelve battalions.
This division will have to have sixteen pieces of artillery, served by the Italian artillery and the Italian train, a company of Italian sappers and a company of 100 workers taken in the arsenal of Venice. The sappers will have their tools. As I do not have the details of the Italian army in front of me, let me know if I can count on it. This division would have six caissons loaded with effects of ambulance. We must not put anything in motion, but prepare everything.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19421. - A CAROLINE NAPOLEON, QUEEN OF THE TWO SICILIES, IN NAPLES.

Paris, January 4, 1813

My sister, I wrote you to inform you of my arrival, and that I had left the King the command of my army,

Political circumstances require me to assemble an observation corps of Italy, of which I will give the command to General Bertrand, governor of the Illyrian provinces. It is essential that you send out within twenty-four hours a regiment of Neapolitan cavalry of four squadrons, each strong squadron of 250 men, and the strong regiment of 1,000 men. You will take in your other regiments to complete it thus, and you will take care that they are all good men with good horses. You will join a company of light artillery with his horses; I will supply him with artillery and carriages. You will also send out a light infantry regiment of two battalions, taking care that all men at least twenty-two years of age, and that these battalions are completed so as to form at least a force of 1,800 men. Direct these troops on Verona. I need to have 40,000 men on the Adige, This does not suffer any delay,

Send me a status report of your troops, equipment, carriages, etc.[367]

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You will take care that your cavalry and your infantry have their surgeons and all that is necessary for them to make war. Also be careful that all horses are over sixty months old.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19422. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 5th, 1813.

I receive your letter. I see in the state that you give me that a market of 2,000 horses has been made at Warsaw. By the information I received, I am informed that this market is full and that with money we could conclude another for 6,000 others. I see from the information I have from Hanover that this is also good on this side; we can therefore count on the 4,700 horses of Hanover; those of Glogau, Elbing, Posen, Hamburg, and Berlin would offer very satisfactory results, supposing that Vilna and Konigsberg were to be missed.

I send you your statements for you to follow and keep them informed. You say very well in your letter of the 5th what I would like. I am very anxious to learn that the 25,000 men I want to march to the Grande Armée exist.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19423. - TO THE COUNT BIGOT OF PREAMENEU, MINISTER OF CULTES, IN PARIS,

Paris, January 5th, 1813.

Count Bigot Preameneu, the Archbishop of Mechelen is no longer employed in external relations; it is my intention that as soon as he returns you will order him to go to his diocese.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Baroness de Nougarède de Fayet.

19424.-TO FRÉDÉRIC VI, KING OF DENMARK AND NORWAY, IN COPENHAGEN.

Paris, January 5th, 1813.

Brother, a letter from my minister, dated December 22, informs me that your Majesty has not received my reply to the letter which he wrote to me and which I received at Moscow, to which I replied two days later, My Minister having sent me a[368]

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the quantity of Russian bulletins, I must tell your Majesty that they are entirely false. The enemy has always been beaten and has not taken from my army a single eagle, a single gun. On the 7th of November, the cold became excessive; all the roads were impracticable; 30,000 of our horses perished from the 7th to the 16th. A portion of our baggage and artillery wagons were broken and abandoned; our soldiers, unaccustomed to protecting themselves from the cold, could not endure a cold of 18-27 degrees. They moved away from the ranks to seek shelter at night, and, having no more cavalry to protect them, several thousand fell successively into the hands of the light troops of the enemy. General Sanson, who was not chief of staff, but head of the topography at the headquarters, was taken by some Cossacks when he setting up a position. Other officers had the same fate, but they were isolated. My pearls are real, but the enemy can not take credit for it. My army has suffered much and still suffers; This calamity will cease with the cold.

I raise horses on all sides, independently of those who, thanks to Your Majesty, are coming from Holstein and Jutland. I raise 60,000 in my empire. I will march in spring with a larger army than was the Grande Army at the beginning of the campaign. I enter into these details with your Majesty to protect it from the bad noises spread with so much artifice.

I have assured your Majesty of Norway and the integrity of her states; nothing in the world can make him lose the least part. England is occupied in Spain, Sicily, America; Russia will be more serious than ever on its frontiers: they will be able to do nothing, neither of them, against your Majesty. I shall always have, as in the past, a corps of 30,000 men for the safety of your Majesty's States, as well as a corps for the defense of the Baltic coasts. I am assured of the good feelings of Austria, I have only to praise the King of Prussia. May your Majesty be uneasy: we will emerge triumphant from that struggle, and all the efforts of the enemies of Denmark will be in vain. I know all the intrigues that England, Russia, and Sweden have played around your Majesty; but I also know her character and the loyalty of her nation, and I am without anxiety about her perseverance in the system she has followed to this day, in accordance with her interests and the true policy of her people.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by the government of His Majesty the King of Denmark.[369]

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19425. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 6, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I do not approve of the work on the formation of an army of 15,000 men that you sent me. The offices would have been spared a useless sentence, if only a note had been sent to me to make known the existing materials.

You will see by the letter that I have written to you the formation of four corps: an observation corps of the Elbe, an observation corps of Italy, and two corps of observation of the Rhine.

The observing corp of the Elbe must consist entirely of cohorts.

For the observation corps of Italy, without understanding the Italian battalions, I need 28 battalions, and 40 battalions for each of the Rhine observation corps, 80 battalions; total battalions required, 108.

To this end, 34 provisional regiments will be formed, each regiment composed of 2 battalions; which will make 68 battalions. So I will only need 40 battalions that I have in France, namely: 2 battalions of the 1st light, 2 of the 9th, 2 of the 32nd, 2 of the 34th (I never count the battalion of deposit), 2 of the 7th of line, 5 of the 13th, 2 of the 15th, 3 of the 22nd, 4 of the 23rd, 2 of the 42nd, 2 of the 52nd, 2 of the 70th, 3 of the 101st, 2 of the 113th, 2 of the 121st; total, 37 battalions.

It is necessary that you present me at once a draft decree to carry these 37 battalions, and more if I had forgotten, to 840 men per battalion, taking first in the 5th battalions and then in the nearest deposits.

The 34 provisional regiments will be formed as follows: 2nd provisional regiment: 3rd battalion of the 2nd light infantry, 3rd of the 4th; 3rd provisional regiment: 3rd battalion of 3rd light infantry, 3rd of 8th; 4th provisional regiment:, 4th battalion of the 12th light infantry, 1st of the 29th; 5th provisional regiment: 7th battalion of the 14th light infantry, 4th of the 18th; 6th provisional regiment: 2nd battalion of the 6th light infantry, 3rd of the 25th; 8th provisional regiment: 4th battalion of the 5th light infantry, 4th of the 23rd; 10th provisional regiment: 3rd battalion of the 16th light infantry, 1st of the 28th; 11th provisional regiment: 4th battalion 1st light, 2nd of 62nd; 12th provisional regiment: 4th battalion of the 10th of line, 2nd of the 20th; 13th provisional regiment: 3rd battalion of the 14th of line, 4th of the 16th; 14th Provisional Regiment: 4th Battalion[370]

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34th of line, 3rd of 40th; 16th provisional regiment: 6th battalion of the 26th of line, 6th of the 82nd; 17th provisional regiment: 3rd battalion of the 36th of line, 4th of the 43rd; 18th provisional regiment: 3rd battalion of the 50th of line, 4th of the 65th; 19th provisional regiment: 4th battalion of the 32nd line, 2nd of the 58th; 20th provisional regiment: 5th battalion of 66th light, 3rd of 122nd; 21st provisional regiment: 3rd battalion of the 59th of line, 4th of the 69th; 23rd provisional regiment: 7th battalion of the 6th of line, 4th of the 67th; 24th provisional regiment: 3rd battalion of the 88th of line, 3rd of the 103rd; 25th provisional regiment: 3rd battalion of the 86th line, 3rd of the 47th.

You will present me a draft decree to complete these 40 battalions to 840 men.

14 temporary regiments remain to be formed, you must give me the state of the battalions who remain in France or who are on their way to arrive at their depot, in order to complete them and to find the means of arriving at the number of 34 provisional regiments, without ever employing the 5th battalions.

The Grande Armée sends to France the cadres of the 4th and 6th battalions; this will be used to receive the conscription of the next year for the defense of the coast.

I have also ordered the return of a large number of Spanish battalions who will arrive in time for this destination.

When these four corps are formed, you will present me a project of battalions of march to lead reinforcements to the Grande Armée, but without changing the cadets.

In what I have just organized, there is enough to form immediately the observation corps of Italy, the observation corps of the Elbe and the 1st observation corps of the Rhine.

I will wait for the work you will present to me to take care of the formation of the 2nd Corps of the Rhine.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19426. - TO M. MARET, DUC OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris. January 7, 1813.

Mr. Duke of Bassano, I refer you your portfolios.

Tell my minister in Kassel that I really prefer that the King gather all his means between Cassel and Magdeburg, so as to form a good division for the month of March. He would then walk well armed and equipped and have a direction[371]

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depending on the circumstances. It would be necessary to push the country a little so that one could, in March, have reorganized the whole army. The orders were given to the Grand Army that all the Westphalian cadres who would have less than 100 men return, completing to 100 men those who will be kept.

Write to M. Hedouville to make the strongest representations so that the individuals who insulted Hanau and make a noise are punished and to make known that, without this, I will send a column to punish them.

I told you my intentions about Mr. Bignon. The members of the Lithuanian government must remain in Warsaw. I do not have trouble giving them treatment. M. Bignon must take special care of the Lithuanian regiments and give all that is reasonable to arm them and equip them. You can write to the charge d'affaires that all the French arms that are in Warsaw are at their disposal, that they can take them after having exhausted all their stores and when they will have more men than arms.

Write to M. Serra, by extraordinary courier, for extraordinary powers to be given to Prince Poniatowski to arm and supply the places, to put them in order, and to organize the conscripts. Make known to my charge d'affaires that I will not make it difficult to give another two millions to the Grand Duchy, if I am certain that it will be used with his army and especially with the cavalry.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives,

19427. – TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ELBING.

Paris, January 7th, 1813.

Cousin, I very much agree that the four regiments of the Vistula are united between Posen and Warsaw. Gather also the three regiments of Lithuania; ensure that these battalions complement each other as much as possible. As I think that the Vistula Legion has suffered a lot, it would not be inconvenient to reduce each regiment to 2 battalions, which would make 8 battalions. The Lithuanian regiments could also be reduced to 2 or 3 battalions, which would be 9, so it would still be a nice division of 17 to 18 battalions, all of which would be sold, dressed and equipped at my expense. Watch this.

NAPOLEON.

According to the moose. Deposit of the war.[372]

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19428. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ELBING

Paris, January 7th, 1813.

Cousin, give orders for sufficient weapons to be placed at the disposal of Prince Poniatowski; that he does not miss it. Order also to bring together all the Lithuanian troops. We could reunite them with the Vistula Legion and thus form a beautiful division, whose pay and masses would be my responsibility. They could be assembled on some suitable point to organize them well. There are three Lithuanian regiments of infantry which must make 12 battalions; the legion of the Vistula is four regiments or 12 battalions; these completed frameworks could make a nice division. If General Claparede is in the army and in good condition, he could heal this body. There are also two: Lithuanian regiments on horseback which, it is said, have joined. They should also be reunited and left with their horses, if men can be used.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19429 - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 7, 1813.

Duke of Feltre, an Elbe observation corps will be formed in Hamburg. This corps will be composed of five divisions.

Infantry. - 1st division: 4th and 10th cohort brigade; 2nd division: 3rd and 11th cohort brigade; 3rd division: 5th and 9th cohort brigade; 4th division: 1st and 6th cohort brigade; 5th division: 7th and 12th cohort brigade. One of these five divisions will be considered as the reserve.

Artillery, - The artillery will consist of: eight, artillery batteries on foot, 64, pieces; two reserve artillery, 16 pieces; two horse artillery, 12 pieces; total, 92 pieces.

Engineers. - It takes six companies of sappers with their train. A battalion of naval workers will be supplied by Antwerp.

Crews. - It takes eight ambulances. One of the crew battalions forming at Sampigny will be attached to this corps d'armee.[373]

Cavalry. - The cavalry will consist of a division of at least 6,000 horses.

NAPOLEON

P. S. Present me the development of this whole army.
According to the copy, Depot of War.

19430. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 7, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, make known to the generals commanding the military divisions that states which they send to your ministry, entitled *Situation of the troops stationed in the division*, etc., with all the details which have been asked of them, become of a major importance in this circumstance; that they must redouble their care in their drafting; that I wish them to send them every two weeks, and that those of the 15th of January be made with sufficient care for me to see the corps there as if I were reviewing them.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war:

19431. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 7th, 1813.

I sent you the formation of twenty provisional regiments. I wish to have thirty, so there are some, still to be formed; but I think I have forgotten several cadets, such as the 128th, the 124th, the 129th, the 35th light, the 75th, the 133rd, the 134th, and so on. So I think you will still find in the forgotten cadres enough to form five provisional regiments. I do not know whether it has arrived from Spain; it is possible that there are en route, and you must consider as arrived all those who would pass Bayonne, Pau or Perpignan. However, if it did not exist, you would propose to me to use the 5th battalions of the twenty-four regiments of the Army of Spain, such as the 17th light, the 27th light, the 100th, the 64th, etc. ., which did not provide any battalions to the provisional regiments. You will propose to take three companies per regiment, forming 130 men, which will easily make six provisional regiments.

As the entire cadre arrived from Spain, they would be sent and the cadres of the 5th Battalions would be returned. He not[374]

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there may be no difficulty in having these thirty provisional regiments promptly, which will make sixty battalions.

I have thirty-seven battalions in France, which belong to regiments which have two or three battalions. There are thirty-four depots of the Grande Armée, which must each have their 5th complete battalion in four cadres. These four cadres have arrived in France, or must at this moment pass the Elbe, for I have sent them from Moscow; give me some news. Each of these regiments could therefore send out a battalion of 800 men. I shall then have 111,000 men, plus 48,000 men of the cohorts of the observation corps of the Elbe, plus 9,000 Italians; which would make a total of 168,000 men of infantry, distributed in the observation corps of Italy, in the observation corps of the Elbe, in the two corps of observation of the Rhine, and in the corps de marche of the Grande Armée.

I have made known to you the composition of the corps of the Elbe, of Italy, and of the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine. The 2nd observation corps of the Rhine would consist of the ten provisional regiments that remain to be formed and five other regiments which would be formed of Swiss and foreign regiments, which would make about thirty battalions.

The reserve of the Grand Army would be made up of the thirty-four battalions of the corps which are the Grand Army.

I will have time to make known my special intentions on the formation of the 2nd Corps of the Rhine and on the formation of the marching corps of the Grand Army, as soon as I have received your work.

The 48,000 men of the cohorts must be recruited, since there are still 19,000 men to be received and the deposit companies must be complete.

The 111,000 men of the line must be supplied easily, since, by the state you are putting back, I see that 165,000 men exist in the depots: there will still be 54,000 men.

I ordered the 4th and 6th battalions of the Grand Army to come back here, but this operation depends on local circumstances, and I do not believe that these cadres can leave the Vistula before January 15th. It is necessary to rush, before counting 1 above, to wait for further information.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.[375]

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19432. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 7, 1813.

I approve that the 400 replacements who are here (good subjects) be admitted in the young Guard by exception, by finding that they are men against whom there is no reproach to be made.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19433. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 7, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the 1st Corps Observing the Rhine will meet at Mainz; it will be composed of:

1st division. - 1st brigade: of the 2nd provisional regiment, two battalions; two battalions of the 136th or Regiment of Paris, which meet at Erfurt; the 14th provisional regiment, two battalions; total, six battalions. This 1st Brigade will meet as soon as possible at Erfurt; 2nd Brigade: 6th provisional, two battalions; 19th provisional, two; the 18th provisional, two; total, six battalions. Total of the 1st division, twelve battalions.

2nd division. 1st brigade: of the 4th provisional regiment, two battalions; 11th, two; 13th, two; total, six battalions. 2nd brigade: of the 8th provisional regiment, two battalions; 16th, two; 17th, two; total, six battalions. Total 2nd Division, Twelve Battalions.

3rd division. - 1st brigade: of the 10th provisional regiment, two battalions, of the 20th, two; 21st, two; total, six battalions. 2nd brigade: of the 24th provisional regiment, two battalions; 25th, two; 13th, two; total, six battalions. Total 3rd Division, 12 battalions.

4th division. 1st brigade: 32nd light, two battalions; Fifteen of the line, two, of the 70th, 2; total, six battalions. 2nd Brigade: 34th Light, two battalions; 22nd line, three; from the 121st, two; total, seven battalions. Total of the 4th division, thirteen battalions.

Recapitulation of the 1st observation corps of the Rhine: 1st division, twelve battalions; 2nd division, twelve battalions; 3rd division, twelve battalions; 4th division, thirteen battalions. Total, forty - nine battalions.

Artillery. - This corps will have six batteries on foot, two[376]

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batteries of the reserve and two horse batteries, total, seventy-six guns.

The headquarters of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps will meet at Mainz, a division will meet at Erfurt, one at Hanau, one at Frankfurt, and the fourth at Fulde or Mainz.

Present me the development of the formation of this army.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19434. - A FRANÇOIS 1st EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, IN VIENNA.

Paris, January 7, 1813 (1)

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19435. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 8, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the camp at Boulogne becomes useless. Order that the troops be quartered or stationed in the city.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

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1) On the 7th of January, 1813, according to some historians, there is a letter from the Emperor Napoleon, to François 1st King of Austria, where the questions of peace and war are at length treated. Notwithstanding the authority of the historians who have admitted the anthesteria (notably M. Bignon, M. Thiers, etc.), this letter appeared suspicious to the Commission charged with publishing the *Correspondence of Napoleon I*. It is not less certain for her that one must see in it something else than a draft dispatch abandoned and not dispatched,

In fact, 1st the minute of this letter is not in the papers of the Secretariat of State, where the slightest notes of the Emperor are preserved; 2nd. This minute exists, it is true, in the archives of Foreign Affairs, but dictated by the Duke de Bassano, laboriously corrected by him, and there is no example of a piece of this importance of which the Emperor would not have reserved the writing; 3rd which does not finally allow to admit that this piece, although carrying modifications of the hand of the Emperor, was definitively adopted for him and shipped, it is that it was not found among the letters from the Emperor Napoleon I to the Emperor of Austria, as the catalogs sent by the Vienna Chancellery to the Archives of Foreign Affairs and the Secretariat of the *Correspondence of Napoleon I* Commission.

These considerations determined the Commission not to give place in its collection to the draft letter which was dispatched January 7, 1813, and, given the importance of the document, it motivate the exclusion here.[377]

19436. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 9, 1813.

Having appointed to order at Vincennes Mr. Daumesnil, the command of Mr. Harel has become useless. This multiplies jobs and costs. I propose to place this officer elsewhere.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19437, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN ELBING.

Paris, January 9, 1813.

My Cousin, I received your letter of the 1st with the strange news that it contained. The Minister of War had to write to you, and I do not and then repeat that we must send back to France all the wounded generals, and all the useless generals and officers of the staff, as well as battalion cadres who are not needed because it's cadets that we miss.

Here are the arrangements I made. As soon as I learned of the treason of General York I decided to make it the nation a communication, which will take place tomorrow, and to make an extraordinary. I formed an observation corps of the Elbe, which meets at Hamburg. This corps will be strong of sixty battalions, I gave the command to General Lauriston. I formed a corps of observation of Italy, which I gathered in Verona and which will be forty battalions; I gave General Bertrand the command. I have formed a 1st Rhine Observation Corps, consisting of sixty battalions; I gave the command to Marshal Duke Ragusa, his headquarters will be in Mainz. I'm going to train an 2nd observation corps of the Rhine, which will also be sixty battalions.

I converted the eighty-eight cohorts into twenty-two Line regiments with four battalions of war and one battalion of deposit; each regiment takes an artillery company, and other cohort artillery companies I form three new artillery regiments of twenty companies each.

I'm making a call for 100,000 conscripts backlog since 1810, so that it will be men over the age of twenty one years; they will be returned in February to the depots. The conscription[378]

from 1814, will be 150,000 men; it will be raised in the course of February.

The cantons of France each offered me three chasseurs, men of twenty-two or twenty-six, who knew how to ride horses and ride horses taken in the canton; that will make me 12 to 13,000 chasseurs, who will arrive at the depots during the month of February. I raised in France 20,000 horses of cavalry, as much by department; they will be returned before the end of January in the different depots.

I accepted the offers I received from six squadrons of bodyguards, of 200 men each squadron; they will be composed of volunteers from the units, all having a pension of 1,000 francs from their parents. I have made deals for 8,000 horses in France, and these markets will be filled in the course of February. I reorganized six battalions of military crews. I raised 12,000 artillery horses. I had the artillery crews reorganized for the Grand Army, at the rate of 400 guns, and for the other corps on the same foot, in total for 800 guns. I reorganized the entire engineer train. Finally, as for my Guard, I have created a regiment of voltigeurs and one of tirailleurs, who will be 6th *bis*; a regiment of fusiliers *bis*; a battalion of chasseurs and one of grenadiers; so that in including the two battalions which are at Stettin and who must stay there, I have in this moment five regiments of the young Guard forming 8,000 men under arms.

I made a call from 3,000 old soldiers, who will soon arrive at the old Guard's depots. I made a particular run of 3,000 horses for the Guard. I made an extraordinary recruitment for the cavalry. I made a deposit of 8000 men in the depots for the recruitment of the train. I think that you have already sent Magdeburg all the men on foot from the Guard, and that you will have dismissed all the cadres of either my young or my old Guard, keeping only as many companies as he can, there will be hundreds of men. All this is of the utmost importance.

The King of Westphalia takes care of supplying Magdeburg. The Duke of Castiglione received the corps of General Grenier, so that he currently has 30,000 men in his hand.

Order all the colonels to keep as many company executives as they have of hundreds of men on foot or on horseback, and to send all the other cadres to France. Give these orders in all the corps d'armee; keep as many battalion cadres as there will be 5 or 600 men present; we return the rest.[379]

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Complete three or four military crews, which you can go back to Danzig and Berlin, and return the rest; you will rid the army and give us the means to form a new one.

Everything is moving here. Nothing is missing, no men, no money, no good will, but we need cadets.

Make sure to supply Danzig well, so that there will be 20,000 men for a year. If you were obliged to evacuate the Vistula, which I do not think possible, leave to Danzig, between French, Poles and Neapolitans, 18 to 20,000 men, at least four generals, many engineers, at least twelve companies artillery; have the cadres of the sappers tightened, complete to 100 men the companies that you keep and send the others back to France. Do the same operation in the Durutte division. I have put the 1st corps into three divisions, tighten the cadres according to the circumstances, and keep only the number of generals and officers that are needed.

If Dumas is in the case of resuming his service, you are the master to dismiss Daru, I have replaced Haxo, since he is ill; it is Bogniat who will command the engineers, he leaves tomorrow. I have made Charbonnel general of division, I do not know, among the generals of artillery of the army, which ones are in state; name it a fear to command the artillery. The director of the park is there: he is the main man. Take on yourself and provide for all needs,

The courts of Austria and Denmark appear in the best arrangements.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19438. - TO MADAME LA COMTESSE DE MONTBRUN, PARIS.

Paris, January 9, 1813.

Countess Montbrum, I receive your letter. I was very fond of your husband, I deeply regretted it. I will name your eldest son with pleasure. I charge the Minister of War to hand you the patent of a pension of 12,000 francs. As for the title and endowments of General Montbrun, that is right.

NAPOLEON.

According to the minute. Empire Archives.[380]

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19439. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN ELBING.

Paris. January 11, 1813.

Cousin, I receive your letter from Elbing on the 3rd, where I see that you only receive my first letter. I wrote to you yesterday to inform you of all the extraordinary things I have done. Tomorrow's Monitor will inform you. Men, horses, cars, artillery, nothing will be missed. Generals, officers, cadres, that's what we need; I can only repeat the positive order of dismissing all the generals, warrant officers, and useless officers; to send back all the useless cadres, either of infantry or cavalry, keeping as many battalion cadres as you have from five to six hundred men under arms; to send back all the cadres of the artillery train, keeping, however, a number completed for the horses you think you have in Germany; to also send all cavalrymen back beyond the number you think you can mount, and, in the event that only what you can climb, to put down the cadres that will cease to be necessary, by tightening the companies complete of 200. Return the generals in proportion.

Make known to the Duke of Taranto the indignation which the letter of General York has produced throughout the nation, and the national movement which is the consequence of it.

I do not need to recommend that you properly supply Danzig. This place must hold a year. There must be at least ten artillery companies, sappers, many engineers, and at least four generals, including a second-in-command, who can replace General Rapp. You must have a safe number with the Governor of Danzig.

You will have seen all that the King of Prussia did as soon as he learned of General York's betrayal, and perhaps the Prussian corps could have been brought back.

As for my Guard, I do not know its situation; it is said to be greatly reduced. I do not understand how it can be this way: at the time of my departure, it was still in good condition. However, it is necessary that you guard only as many cadres as you have hundreds of men, and that you send the rest back to France. Send all the horsemen on foot from the Guard, all the artillery on foot, all the dismounted train of the Guard, as well as all[381]

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men of the military equipments, Form infantry that you keep a single division, of which you can give the command to General Boguet. Keep an adjutant commander of the Guard and send the others back. I would especially need General Curial, who commands the chasseurs, General Friant, who commands the grenadiers, and Generals Saint-Sulpice and Walther, who command various arms.

I let you know that everything related to the Guard is moving here. It is very urgent that I know the situation of all the battalions of military crews and battalions of the train, either of the Guard, or of the cavalry, or of the army.

Return the Duke of Danzig and Generals Delaborde and Friant. It is reported to me that in Warsaw 2,000 men have already gone up; it is therefore advisable to make them march on Posen to join them there with other detachments of their regiments and begin to reform the cavalry.

As all these orders are only the repetition of what I have already told you, or what the Minister of War has written to you, I hope that everything is already carried out; but we must know what to count on.

I repeat, what we need above all, either for the cavalry, or for the infantry, or for the military crews, or for the battalions of the train, they are cadres, Like a great number of new companies of artillery had been sent to the Grande Armée, they must be en route; stop them on the Oder, put four or five in the places of the Oder. Take care also to fill these places of officers of the engineers.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19440. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS,

Paris, January 11, 1813,

I answer your letter of 9th (artillery office). I see that the 290 wagons needed for the first batteries that I requested at the Fère will arrive in the course of February. It is necessary that the other 540 arrive at the same time, and that you draw from that Douai, Boulogne and Cherbourg all that you must draw. Do not count on the 1,500 horses that will be raised, to do no chore. I will order the lifting[382]

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of the 2,700 horses necessary to harness the rest of the wagons, as soon as I have received state of the Grande Armée; it is likely to be before the end of January. Thus, it is necessary that the 120 guns and the 800 wagons are as soon as possible to the Fère.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19441. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS,

Paris January 11, 1813.

I think an engineering wagon weighing 1,700 pounds and carrying 2,600, which makes a total weight of 4,300 pounds, is a wagon far too heavy; I prefer a wagon weighing 900 and carrying 2,000, which will be less than 3,000; then this wagon will be able to go with four horses, and with six when the horses will be tired or the roads too bad. It is, therefore, the intention that the prolongations of the engineers weigh less than 1,000; they may also carry less than 2,000. I approve that only two companies be organized, one in Danzig and one in Metz. It is necessary to take care of organizing promptly that of Metz.

Of the twenty companies of sappers and the four companies of miners who are with the Grande Armée, it is necessary to order that the half come back, completing the half which one will leave with the available men of the rest. I therefore wish that, without waiting for new orders, an entire company be organized at Metz; let the men be trained to buy the horses, the wagon, and the harnesses on the spot, so that by the 15th of February this company can leave, if it is necessary. I also wish that at the same time all the companies, either from Walcheren, or the others, and the miners who will be destined for the observation corps, have their caissons.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19442. - TO THE GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Paris. January 11, 1813.

Count de Cessac, I reply to your letter of January 8th. The regiments which form the observation corps of the Elbe, of Italy, and of the Rhine, will have no regimental equipment; however[383]

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those who have them will keep them. The administration of these divisions must be as for a division of fourteen battalions. Ambulances must be, as has always been the case, six boxes per ambulance.

For the observation corps of Italy, everything must be reunited in Verona.

Without prejudging the direction this corps will take, the entire administration must be reunited for February 20 in Verona. The 1,000 horses for the military crews of the observation corps of the Army of Italy are among the 2,400 horses which must be raised, not only in the Illyrian provinces, but also in Italy, namely 1,200 in the Illyrian provinces and 1,200 in the French departments beyond the Alps. Do you hear about it with the artillery office.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19443. - TO COMTE FONTANELLI, MINISTER OF WAR OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Paris. January 11, 1813.

I receive your letter from January 1st; I no longer remembered that you had the wallet of war; I am pleased to see you in this position under such important circumstances.

I ordered the meeting in Verona of a corps of observation of which General Bertrand must have the command. This corps will be composed of two French divisions, strong of thirty battalions, and of an Italian division strong of nine battalions of the kingdom and three Neapolitan battalions. Designate the nine battalions you propose for this purpose. It will also require 500 light cavalry horses, sixteen Italian artillery pieces, a train company, a company of Italian sappers and a company of naval workers to shoot from the arsenal of Venice. You must only give all the preparatory orders, but do not reunite anything yet. The observation corps of Italy will thus be forty to forty-five battalions.

Send me the situation report of my Italian army on the 15th of January.

Make me a report on the places.

I do not have to be wary of the provisions of Austria, which works well with me; however it is necessary that Palmanova and Osoppo be armed.

I also want you to let me know if the second camel[384]

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exists in Venice, and what are the English forces currently in the Adriatic. If it were possible to send for Toulon the three ships of Venice, it would be a good operation.

Write to me every day.

NAPOLEON.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19444. – TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN ELBING ..

Paris, January 12, 1813.

Cousin, we must make no difference to the returns of the Italian regiments and the French regiments, except to make a statement of what is given to the Italian regiments to be taken into account by the kingdom of Italy.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19445. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 12, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, as I have found many mistakes in what your head of division has collected under my dictation, I decide to let you know my intentions again.

The observing corps of the Elbe, as I am writing to you today, will be composed of four divisions; each division will be strong of three regiments, which will make twelve regiments, including the 134th or regiment of Paris. There will thus remain eight regiments, which will be destined for the 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine.

The observation corps of Italy will be augmented by a division composed of two battalions of the 52nd, two battalions of the 5th provisional, four of the 137th regiment and four of the 156th; total, twelve battalions.

The 1st observation corps of the Rhine will lose the 134th, which passes to the observatory of the Elbe.

The 2nd Rhine Observation Corps will consist of ten new provisional regiments and eight regiments remaining out of the twenty-three created with the cohorts. In addition, all regiments which have two or three battalions in France, and which are not part of the observation corps, such as the 9th light, the 1st of the line, etc., will be added to it.[385]

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As for the formation of the ten new provisional regiments, it is necessary to put together the battalions which are whole, such as the 75th, the 33rd light, the 51st, etc. We must remove from this new provisional formation the 44th, the 113th, and in general all the regiments which would have in France two or three battalions, seeing that they must march under their name, and that they need not be covered by temporary numbers.

I adopt for the tenth interim regiments that three companies of the 5th battalions are to be marched, but after having ascertained that the cadres of the 3rd and 4th battalions are marching from Spain, and that in the course of March these 5th battalions will be replaced by the final cadets. In the provisional regiments, no detachment belonging to the regiments belonging to the Grand Army should be included.

As for the various projects of complete, the battalions which must be part of the observation corps of Italy are missing 4,500 men. I agree that we should take 3,000, 500 from each of the six regiments that are in the kingdom of Italy and have their battalions at the Grande Armée, and that we take the 1,500 others in the five regiments which are in the 7th military division. No movement will be made before February 1st. I will be presented with the order of these movements to operate. First of all, in the 7th Division, all that pertains to the 4th battalion of the 18th Light will be completed, and the rest will form a battalion of marches which will be put into action on the 1st of February for Verona.

The 5th battalions of the 8th light and the 23rd will also leave, on February 1st, all they will have available to complete their corps in Verona.

It appears that it takes 6,500 men to complete the cadres who are part of the observation corps of the Rhine. It is necessary to take in the 5th battalions or depots of the army of Spain, and nothing in the depots of the Grande Armée.

I estimate that it takes 10,000 men to recruit the cavalry, so that all the depots of the regiments of the Grand Army and the armies of Spain have the men they are required to serve the horses they are to receive. These 10,000 men must be taken on the next levy in the departments where the deposits are located. By this means, the men will be returned to the depots by February 15th.

I exclude from these provisions cuirassiers and carabiniers, who must receive men of choice, and for this weapon it would be[386]

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it may be convenient to take in the cohorts a thousand men of choice, of tall stature, and knowing the horses.

I estimate that the Minister of War Administration needs 3,000 men to recruit the five battalions of military crews he organizes in France and Italy.

I think that it is necessary for the artillery train, as much for the sappers, engineer train, pontooners, miners and other services; as much for the Guard. That makes a job of about 25,000 men. The line will therefore remain more than 75,000 men, which must be distributed between the cadres of the 3rd and 4th battalions already below the Pyrenees, or of which we would be sure of the arrival, and the surplus between the thirty-four regiments of the Grande Armée. In the Grande Armée depots, however, those of the 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, and 129th regiments are not to be understood, so I suppose that there are only about thirty cadets of which we owe. The depots of the Grande Armée generally have at present 1,200 men, it will be necessary to supplement them all at 2,500, and by these thirty deposits 40 to 45,000 men will be employed.

There will be only 35,000 men left for the other depots, and for all the new battalions that are formed. All the corps of the Grande Armée, thus having 2,500 men at their depots, will have something to complement each other. I provisionally had a 6th *bis* battalion formed for all these regiments; we must try to procure them officers and non-commissioned officers. I call the corps of the Grand Army the fifteen regiments of the 1st corps; the six of the 2nd; the six of the 3rd and the 6th of the 4th. I do not understand, as I said above, under this denomination, neither the 8th, nor the 18th Light, nor the Dutch formation regiments and the departments of the 32nd Military Division.

First put in motion the conscripts of 1813 and previous years, which are the only ones I can really count on.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19446. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 12, 1813.

The Duke of Feeltre, the 151st, 152nd and 153rd regiments will form the 1st division of the observation corps of the Elbe. This division[387]

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will meet in Hamburg. You will appoint General Saint-Cyr to command it, and you will give him two of the three brigade generals who are employed in these cohorts. The 2nd division of the same corps will be formed at Wesel, where it will be composed of the 146th, 147th and 148th regiments. It will be commanded by General Puthod, who is in Groningen. The 154th, 155th and 134th regiments, which will meet at Bremen or Osnabrück, and the four battalions of the foreign regiments which must leave Holland, will form the 3rd division. Thus the 134th will no longer be part of the observation corps of the Rhine. The 4th Division will be assembled at Mayence and composed of the first three regiments which will arrive, and I am awaiting to designate these three regiments the state you will give me, indicating the day of the arrival of each regiment at its destination.

By these dispositions the corps of the Elbe will have four divisions forming fifty battalions. Propose me the generals to command the 3rd and 4th divisions. There will remain eight regiments, of which I will be available for the observation corps of the Rhine. It will be necessary for the two divisions which will meet at Hamburg to find their artillery there; that the 3rd division finds its artillery at Wesel, and that the 4th finds its own at Mainz.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19447. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 12, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, you will receive the decree I just made for the formation of the 22 regiments composed of cohorts. You will see that these 22 regiments must be formed, namely: 8 in Paris, 1 in Lyon, 1 in Puycerda, 4 in Wesel, 4 in Hamburg and Osnabmck, 2 in Mainz and 2 in Verona; total: 22 regiments.

It is necessary that by extraordinary messengers, you put all the cohorts in motion to go to the place where they must be gathered and formed into regiments. You will let me know the day each one arrives at its destination.

It is necessary that you present to my appointment the twenty-two colonels and the twenty-two majors, and that finally you calculate so that the colonels arrive in time.

All cohorts must move twenty-four hours after receiving your orders.

As Paris is already quite congested by the Guard, have trained[388]

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the 135th regiment as soon as possible. As soon as it is formed, as I intend to be directed to Mayence, you will first send it to Metz, where he will complete his arming and put himself in good condition.

After the departure of your messengers to set these troops in motion, what I see most urgently is the appointment of the colonels, taking care to take them among available officers in the interior and not having did the campaigns of the Grande Armée.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19448. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 14, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, give orders to gather at Mainz, as soon as possible, two battalions of the 22nd of the line, the 10th provisional regiment, which consists of the battalions of the 16th and 28th light; the 6th provisional, formed battalions of the 6th and 25th light; the provisional 14th, formed of the 40th and 34th of line; the provisional 24th, formed of the 88th and the 103rd; the 21st provisional, consisting of the 59th and 69th; which will make twelve battalions or a division.

You will order General Souham to take the command. The Duke de Valmy will be in charge of properly arming and organizing these regiments, of which each company must leave Mainz 140 strong men. You will immediately name the majors who must command these regiments. You will arrange, as soon as possible, two batteries to be attached to this division. You will let me know when she can be assembled in Mainz and be in good condition in Frankfurt, where she will complete her organization. The Duke de Valmy could even, as soon as the 1st brigade, with three regiments, be formed, send it to Frankfort. It is important that this 1st Brigade first have its artillery.

I wish to attach to this division the 10th of hussars, which is at Metz. Let me know when this regiment will be 1,000 men. Order the formation of the 5th and 6th squadrons of this regiment. Let me know also when all the rest of the Rhine Observation Corps can set out to meet in Mainz.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.[389]

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19449. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 14, 1813.

Count Lauriston, I have entrusted you with the command of the observation corps of the Elbe. The Minister of War will give you the order to leave in the next week. You have four French divisions under your command: the 1st is organized in Hamburg, the 2nd in Osnabrück, the 3rd in Wesel and the 4th in Mainz. You will also have a Westphalian division. You will place your headquarters in Magdeburg. See the ministers of war and the administration of war to know when all your divisions will arrive, the organization of each, as well as the organization of your staff, your service of engineering, artillery and administration. It is necessary that you arrive early, since you will be able to see for yourself the formation of your regiments, which consist of cohorts, and see to the repair of the fortifications of Magdeburg and the formation of the stores of this place. At Hanover, you will advise the means of forming a cavalry division with the whole regiments which you will meet there; Finally you will also take care of the return of your artillery. All these measures to be taken therefore require your prompt presence in Wesel, Hanover, Hamburg and Magdeburg. When you are on the scene, you will find ways to accelerate everything related to the formation of your army.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19450. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 15, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Feltre, I am looking at the work that your division head Gerard brought me.

CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE.

The 1st division seems to me well composed; it is the first to come online, since it is already in Hamburg. It is therefore indispensable to organize it immediately in general, staff officers, engineers, artillery officers, administrative staff, etc., so that General Lauriston can immediately dispose of this division according to events.[390]

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The 2nd division, which is formed at Wesel, will be there before the 1st of February. It is necessary, therefore, that General Puthod, whom I appointed to command, should be there at that time; for that, it must be ordered without delay.

The 3rd division can hardly be reunited until about the 10th of February; I think I decided she would be trained in Osnabrück. Order General Lagrange, who is with the Grande Army, to go immediately to Osnabruck to take command of this division.

The 4th division will be composed of the 135th, 136th and 138th; it is formed in Mainz. The three regiments can hardly be returned to Mainz before February 15th. It is necessary that you order the Major General to send a capable General of Division, but of those who are useless, to take the command. Write him also to send two brigade generals.

The command of the 31st and 32nd military divisions remains to be filled, order General Loison to proceed to Hamburg to take command of the 32nd Military Division, and order General Janssens to proceed to Groningen to take the command. command of the 31st.

Thus the divisional generals of the observation corps of the Elbe are all named. General Camas could take command of the artillery. As for the cavalry to be attached to this corps, it will be only when we know the result of the returns and the regiments that we can most quickly organize between the Oder, the Elbe and the Rhine, that we can do this part of the work. See in your offices if you have some states. You will give General Lauriston instructions to inform himself of the detachments of cavalry existing in the depots of Hanover, Berlin, and Stettin, and to send those which it will be easier to reunite by regiments, because whole regiments are needed.

Let me know when the Irish regiment and the 44th can supply their battalion to the 3rd Division.

OBSERVATION CORPS OF ITALY.

The 1st Division, as it is worn in the work, seems to me well. Nevertheless, it remains to be known to me when these regiments can be assembled at Verona. It is also necessary to name the general of division who must command it.

2nd division. I do not want the 6th battalion of the 42nd, the 6th of the 67th or the 6th of the 101st, that would reduce that division to eleven battalions[391]

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On the other hand, we must not change the organization I gave to the provisional battalions: the 10th must be with the 20th, the 6th with the 67th; they must be restored as well; this will give one more battalion and will postpone the division to twelve battalions. I approve of the work you have done on the 4,350 men to remove from other corps. It is necessary to prepare the movement of all these detachments on Verona.

3rd division. I do not want the 52nd, but I want the 3rd and 4th battalions of the 52nd each to be brought to six companies, and that for this purpose we get the cadres back. I do not want the 6th battalion of the 102nd, or the 5th of the 79th, nor the 5th of the 20th, nor the 6th of the 112th. There will remain only the 3rd and 4th battalions of the 52nd, 2 battalions of the 5th provisional, 4 of the 137th and 4 of the 156th; total of the 3rd division, 12 battalions.

I approve everything you take in the corps to complete these regiments, as it is worn at work.

You see that it will remain in Italy all 6th and 5th battalions, except the 6th Battalions of the 13th and 23rd; I take them because the cadres will be quickly reformed.

1st CORPS OBSERVATION RHINE.

I approve the formation of the 1st division. You remove 1,100 men from the cohorts to complete the corps of this division; I approve of it, while making the observation that the office calculates too tightly. Thus the 58th has 1,200 men in the workforce; that will scarcely be enough to supply 840 men to his battalion. Nothing should be removed from this regiment, nor from those who already furnish one or two battalions. It is necessary to deduce the cripples, the sick, etc., and to put them in a position to be able to reform their battalion as soon as possible.

I also approve the formation of the 2nd division. I also approve of the way you want to complete the body, but always making the same observation.

I approve of the 3rd division, as you propose it and always with the same observation.

I approve the 4th Division, but I do not approve of taking 600 men in the 29th line. It is a regiment which has its four battalions at the Grande Armée; it must be worn as such.

With these modifications, the forty-eight battalions of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps were approved.

Let me know when all these detachments and regiments can set off to train at Mainz.[392]

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2nd RHINE OBSERVATION CORPS.

The 1st division of the 2nd observation corps of the Rhine will be composed of the 149th, 150th, 145th.

The 2nd division will be composed of the 139th, 140th and 141st.

The 3rd division will be composed of the 142nd, the 144th. All these regiments will be formed in Paris, Mainz and Lyon. The 26th provisional, composed of the 4th battalion of the 51st and 3rd battalion of the 75th, will be attached to the 3rd division. The two 113th battalions will also be attached, which will complete the 3rd division.

The 4th division will be formed of six other provisional regiments, which must be composed of whole battalions, which will bring the total of this corps to forty-eight battalions.

I do not adopt the formation you propose of seven provisional regiments: I do not want a 5th battalions; I want whole battalions. I adopt only one provisional regiment, which is the 26th, composed as I have just told you.

Organize me therefore, according to these observations, the four corps of observation: the observation corps of the Elbe with 4 divisions, 48 battalions; that of Italy with 4 divisions, 36 French battalions, 12 Italians, or 48 battalions; 1st Rhine Observation Corps, 4 divisions, 48 battalions; 2nd corps, 4 divisions, 48 battalions; total of four corps, 192 battalions.

CORPS OF RESERVE.

I created 6th battalions. All those who are beyond the Alps will make a reserve division. These battalions will be increased to 800 men, and to complete them it will be taken, if necessary, out of the 100,000 men, so that I can have a strong division there to recruit the Grand Army.

Also on the Rhine: a reserve corps will be formed from all the 6th battalions just organized to recruit the Grand Army.

I have already written to you that my intention was to have 2,500 to 3,000 men at each deposit. The cadres of the 5th battalions, those of the 6th which have just been organized and the cadres who will arrive successively, will make it possible to organize three battalions, which will supply 2,500 men for each of the regiments. Thus, with what exists in the depots of the Grande Armée and the 100,000 men, a hundred battalions will be organized which will form the complement of the army.[393]

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STATE N° 6.

In this state you have to add the 27th line and the 29th light, which you have to rearrange.

You carry to the 1st corps fifteen battalions; the 33rd Light, which has a battalion in France, should also be carried there.

I have already given 18,000 men of the conscription of 1813 to these different corps. By giving another 1,500 men to each, as it is my intention, to the conscription of 100,000 men, that would be 22,500 men. Thus the 1st corps could have, in the course of April, 40,000 men ready to leave.

The 2nd corps has six regiments; his six depots have 1,000 men, which, with the 9,000 that I am destined for them on conscription, will make 10,000 men. We must see what the Swiss can provide.

The 3rd corps has six regiments as well. To this must be added the Illyrian regiments and the new Dutch regiments attached to them.

I see that it would be twenty-seven corps.

Joining the Dutch regiments, those of the 32nd division, the 29th, the 3rd, the 105th, which are almost entirely attached to the Grand Army, finally the 29th light, which will be reformed, as well as the five regiments of refractory who are at the Grande Armée, there would be more than 100,000 men who, in the course of April, could furnish these deposits.

Of this number, 30,000 men are drawn from the conscription of 1813; there would therefore remain more than 60,000 men to be supplied by the conscription of 100,000 men. That leads me to decide that a 6th battalion will be provided at the 3rd, 105th and 29th. It would be necessary, therefore, to take nothing from these regiments for the incorporations to be made in the Rhine observation corps or in the others; also for Belle-Ile, Ré, Mediterranee and Walcheren regiments.

As for the 3 battalions coming from the Spanish army, they will be used for the conscription of 1814.

I do not understand what you wanted to put in your states our 12, that he will return the 27th, 79th, 8th, 96th, 16th, 17th and 36th light: this is absolutely an enigma for me.

As to the state No. 7, forming the new reserve divisions of Bayonne, I approve of it entirely. It must be executed on the spot and I propose to dissolve the current division, so that the detachments[394]

go join their regiments and that there are cadres to receive the conscription of 1814.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19451.-TO COUNT MOLLIEN, MINISTER OF TREASURE, PARIS.

Paris. January 15, 1813.

Count Mollien, my intention is that in the budget of foreign relations for 1813 we shall include a sum of 1,500,000 francs for relief to Lithuanian and Polish refugees, and a sum of 6 millions for subsidies to be granted to the Government of the Duchy of Warsaw; which will bring the department's budget to $ 16 million. It is necessary that you carry in distribution, for the month of January, a sum of 3 million to the Ministry of the external relations. This sum will include: 1st the two millions in billon of Piedmont which I gave to the duchy for the reorganization of his cavalry, at my passage in Warsaw; 2nd a million which will be at the disposal of the Minister of Foreign Relations to be placed by him at the disposal of my Minister at Warsaw, who will dispose of it according to the circumstances and who will take from this sum the funds to be granted to the Poles. The Minister of Foreign Affairs will issue ordinances for these 3 million.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.

19452. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 16th, 1813.

I send you the distribution of the conscription of 1814. This seems to me to be well founded; but my intention is not yet to sign this decree, since it wishes to begin this levy only when that of the 100,000 men is finished. Accordingly, please send me the decree with the dates. These 1814 conscripts must be disturbed and agitated only when the others leave. It would be inconvenient to arm so many conscripts at once,

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[395]

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19453.- TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 16th, 1813.

Count de Cessac, I received your letter of January 14th. I have issued a decree by which I order that the five battalions of the crews be entirely formed in France. There is nothing to expect from the Grand Army, for all men seem excessively tired; we must reorganize them entirely. I see that you have 29 officers and 670 non-commissioned officers and soldiers at the depots of the Grand Army's military crews: gather all this and reorganize these five cadres promptly; take even in all the depots of the army of Spain, I must have twenty-three depots of military equipages, of which three, the 14th, the 16th and the 20th, are not in France; the remaining twenty must at least provide you with sixty officers and a thousand non-commissioned officers and soldiers: gather all that. If, in doing your work, you found something to form a sixth cadre, you would propose it to me.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19454. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE DE FRIOUL,
GRAND MARECHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 16th, 1813.

I refer you your report on the recruitment of the Guard. Write again to Major General and General Roguet for status reports.

I ordered the major general to tighten all the cadres of both the young and the old guard, so as to supplement them to 100 men per company.

I sent you today an instruction to organize the Guard in three divisions, namely: a first division which will be completed with the conscription of 1813; a second division which will be with the conscription of 100,000 men, and finally the third on the conscription of 1814. According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,[396]

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19455. - TO CHARLES-LOUIS-FREDERIC, GRAND DUKE OF BADE, AT CARLSRUHE.

Paris, January 16th, 1813.

My son, I received your letter from Carlsruhe, January 4th. The present circumstances of Germany want you to take effective measures to reform your contingent, reorganize your artillery, retatch it and remount your cavalry. It will not be enough to have an infantry regiment in the month of March, if you do not join well-hitched artillery and a cavalry regiment.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19456, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 17, 1813.

Charge General Campredon with the inspection of the Oder, Spandau and Magdeburg forts; he will have the most urgent works done in each place; he will establish the service of his weapon in the most suitable manner; and, in case the enemy presents himself on the Oder, he must be at Magdeburg, and able to give the more detailed information on the state of the fortifications of the places, on the supplies, on their armament, on the situation of their stores, & c. After his review, the headquarters of General Campredon must be established at Magdeburg, whence he will correspond with the ministers, with the major-general, the commanders of the places, & c.

Reiterate to General Haxo the order to go to Paris.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19457. DECISION

Paris, January 17, 1813.

The Minister of the Interior proposes to grant, for the funeral of prefects who died in office, one-tenth of the salary of activity.

Refuse. Why look for spending opportunities?

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.[397]

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19458. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 18, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the commune of Paris offered me 500 chasseurs, which I accepted. Wanting to give proof of my satisfaction to the city of Paris, my intention is that these 500 men be part of the 3rd regiment of lancers of my Guard. Accordingly, give orders to General Lefebvre, who commands the cavalry of the Guard, to see the prefect, so that the men and horses are immediately sent to the depot of the 2nd regiment of lancers. The regiment will arm them, dress and equip them, and the commune of Paris will reimburse this expense to the regiment. By warning the prefect of this disposition, let him know that the city of Paris must be sensitive to this mark which I give it to my consideration, and that it must offer only handsome men, good subjects and who, by their size and their good behavior, do honor to the Guard. As a man is raised, he will be sent to General Lefebvre, who will accept only those who have the required qualifications. As for those who would not meet the conditions required to be admitted to the Guard, but who would nevertheless be acceptable by other regiments, if the commune of Paris could not provide others, General Lefebvre would send them to the nearest lancer regiments, which in exchange would provide him with men of choice for the lancers of the Guard.

My intention is that the 200 horses to be furnished by Paris, on the requisition of 15,000, should also be given to the Guard. Consequently, inform General Lefebvre, who will see the prefect, will receive the horses and prepare their distribution between the different arms of the Guard. By this means, all that regards Paris, in this levy, will be finished promptly and without embarrassment.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19459. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. January 18, 1813.

I answer your letter of the 17th (artillery office).

I think we have to organize the Grande Armée train (including the 11th Corps and the observation corps of the Elbe and the Rhine), so that there are 18,000 horses and the staff of 11,000 men.[398]

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Although I believe that as soon as I have received the states of the Grand Army, I will adopt a project which will greatly simplify its crews, of which the observation corps of the Elbe and the Rhine are only the complement; It is none the less true, however, that I want to have as many army and artillery as I had last spring, and that consequently it will be necessary to have the 3,000 wagons and the 11 or 12,000 horses which you propose independently of the Guard. I therefore approve that you bring back from the Grand Army forty-four companies of the artillery train. You will direct them first to Magdeburg, from where they will be directed later according to the circumstances; they will be completed by 3,000 conscripts of 1814, and first all the old soldiers who have lost their fingers and can no longer handle the rifle. General Sorbier has proposed this measure, which seems to me useful; you must write to the Major General to authorize it.

I wish you to present me with conditions, 1st of all that remains of the train to the army; 2nd what will be at Magdeburg; 3rd thirty-five companies of the interior; 4th, the train of the observation corps of Italy; 5th of the train of the Guard to the Fère and in Germany. It will be necessary to order all the Artillery of the Guard to go to Mainz. Present me a draft decree for these provisions. My intention is that only the companies of the train which can be completed to 100 men, by pouring all the available men, remain with the army. All other executives must return to Magdeburg.

If, in the number of 18,000 horses you present to me, the Guard and the Corps of Italy are not included, this number would be greater than that of last year. I wish to have a complete picture of the artillery as I have organized it at the Grand Army, the observation corps of the Elbe, the Rhine, and Italy, in parts, horses, and wagons, compared with the crew of the Grand Army in the last campaign. This crew was sufficient and even very considerable. My intention is not that all these crews surpass each other, although you can continue to make preparations for a larger crew.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19460. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 18, 1813.

I receive your letter. The journeys to be made in France consist[399]

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in 15,000 horses to be raised by requisition and 4,726 horses whose levy is ordered by the decree of October 2nd, total 19,726 horses; which, together with the 15,000 horses produced by the voluntary offers, will make 34,000 cavalry horses, which I hope to get out of France before the month of May. There will be more for the military crews 4,400 horses for the four battalions that are organized in France, 1,000 horses to rise in Illyria, total 5,400 horses.

As for the horses to be raised in Germany, the calculation must consist of all the horses which General Bourcier buys; but I do not think it can exceed 14 to 15,000 horses. I would like him to get 50,000; if he could at least have 30,000, it would be 64,000 horses that I would have in the spring. In addition, my intention is to provide as many riders as there are horses. This is what led me to write to you to have 200,000 saddles and harnesses of extraordinary; have them done in Strasbourg, Paris, Mainz. (I do not understand the letter of the Minister of the Treasury, I write to him.) My intention is therefore that you write to General Bourcier that I intend to have in March 34,000 horses coming from the returns of France; that I hope that he will procure in Germany enough to go up all the men on foot who are on his side; if he can have 30,000 horses, buy them, and give him the men he will need to ride them. Match with him for the harness. It would be necessary for you to send a young intelligent officer to get in touch with him, to know where are the escorts, where are the depots of regiments and to try to reunite detachments by regiment.

It would be urgent for you to bring me your budget proposal on Wednesday. It's up to you to pay for it as a result of the expenses you expect.

Moreover, I have just issued a decree on what is the subject of this letter. I would now like you to tell me where the returns are. You feel that those planned at Vilna, Konigsberg, and Elbing are almost worthless. I believe that Warsaw has provided nearly 2,000 horses. As today I am in Paris, it is necessary that you write to your agents and to the commissioners of the wars which you have on the spot to educate you in detail and to keep you informed of the march of these operations, because the direction no longer comes from the army, but from Paris. Write to them that the more good horses they have, the happier I will be; but it is necessary that they make it known[400]

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here, in order that the money and the effects of harnessing, and even men, should be at their disposal, for, according to all that belongs to me, I see that it is well to fall back upon the great a number of men on foot to go back to the Grande Armée, and since Vilna there have been great losses caused by the cold and the diseases which have succeeded the cold.

According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,

19461. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Paris, January 18, 1813.

Monsieur le Comte de Cessac, I receive today's report, by which you bring me the budget of your department, for 1813, to 294 millions. I do not think that the budget of this year should be greater than that of 1812; it must be even lower, and I think 220 or 225 million must be enough.

In your state no 3 for the year 1813, you count, for the first three months, 279,000 men, among whom are all cohorts: but at the time of February 15 more than half of these cohorts will be outside France, You wear in besides 70,000 men for the conscription of 1813, which makes a total of 349,000 consumers: in the course of February all this conscription will be outside France. I think, therefore, that if on the 1st of January there are 350,000 men, there will only be 200,000 on February 15th, and on March 15th only 60,000. Thus, by raising to 250,000 men, the one carrying the other, which must exist during the ninety days of the quarter, we would have a saving of 11 millions of rations,

You suppose that the 100,000 men of the four previous years will not go out until August. It is positive that on the 1st of August there will not be a man of this levy in France. So that's difference of four months, which for 100,000 men gives a saving of 12 million rations.

The 1811 conscription, which arrives in April, could be calculated for a whole eight months, so that instead of 120 million rations for the year, I am assuming only 80 million, which reduces the expenditure of 43 million to 30 and gives a saving of 13 million.

The camp at Boulogne has already been suppressed; which makes Chapter II a saving of 500,000 francs.

Chapter III (*Extraordinary Supplies*) is then[401]

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reduced in the same principle as the bakery, which makes a savings of 1 million.

Chapter IV (*Fodder*) may be reduced by 1,600,000 francs. As for Chapter V (*Clothing*), you wear 100,000 to the Grand Army, you bring 200,000 to the Spanish army, which is just that number; you carry 10,000 to Corfu and 10,000 to the army of Illyria, and finally 100,000 to the cohorts, which do not even have this number: from which I conclude that the mass of clothing can be decreased.

This expense was for 1812 only 64 millions; it should be only 60 this year, and you bring it to 70.

The expenditure of the army of Catalonia seems to me too much exaggerated.

In short, I am justified in thinking that in order to form a reasonable budget for 1813, it is necessary to refer to lower estimates than in 1812, and that the budget should not go beyond 220 to 225 million.

The finance minister had to write to you Wednesday to bring all the necessary information to establish the basics of the budget. In order to be in good agreement, it would be necessary first to know the state of the situation of the army as you believe it at the time of the 1st of January, 1813.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19462. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, CASSEL (1).

Paris. January 18, 1813.

Sir, according to the custom which I have always practiced in important circumstances, I think I ought to inform Your Majesty of the situation of our affairs.

Your Majesty has learned, from the reports which have been published, of the victories I have obtained over the Russian army. I did not meet her once until I beat her. His cavalry and infantry have, in general, been badly shown. His Cossacks are the only ones of his troops who have done well in the kind of warfare to which they are fit. After the fighting in Smolensk and the battle of Moskva, I entered Moscow. I found in this great city abundance of all things, the houses all furnished, provisions

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1) Same letter to the Kings of Bavaria and Wurtemberg, to the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt, to the Prince Primate, & c.[402]

everywhere and the inhabitants in the best arrangements. But, twenty-four hours later, the fire broke out in two hundred places at the same time. The rich stores were the prey of the flames. The merchants and all the middle class, seeing their homes in ashes, took flight, dispersed in the woods, and after four days of prodigious but useless efforts, Moscow, which we could not save, no longer existed.

A large number of the inhabitants of the villages had asked me for a decree which gave them liberty, and promised to take up arms for me. But, in a country where the middle class is small, and when, frightened by the ruin of Moscow, the men of this class (without whom it was impossible to direct and contain the movement once printed to large masses) had gone away, I felt that arming a population of slaves was to devote the country to frightful evils; I did not even have the idea. I only thought of organizing my army and returning to the Dvina.

As soon as I judged the moment for the movement, I walked on the enemy. I maneuvered on his left, I pushed him forty versts (rods?), and, taking advantage of this advantage, I pressed my movement on Smolensk. I arrived at Dorogobouje on the 5th of November, in the best possible weather. I congratulated myself on the situation of my affairs: I had not left more than 500 men in hospitals to be transported; I dragged everything with me; I was only three short days from Smolensk; the enemy had been overthrown in Viazma and scattered in the woods; the general-major who commanded him had been taken. But from the 5th to the 7th the cold became rigorous; the roads were covered with ice. I directed the viceroy over Doukhovshchina, and with the rest of the army I turned to the great communication of Smolensk. Instead of three days, it took five to get there. I lost in these marches about 4 to 5,000 draft horses and cavalry. Evil was nothing yet. The Viceroy was restrained by the ice on the Vop; attacked by the Cossacks, he repulsed them with great advantage and made no loss in men, but he was obliged to abandon part of the equipment because of the ice that the rapidity of the slopes made impracticable. It was there that I experienced the first losses a little sensitive.

On arriving at Smolensk, I learned that the Prince of Schwarzenberg, who commanded my right, had marched to cover Warsaw, instead of coming to Minsk, and I felt the necessity of walking on the Berezina,[403]

to warn the enemy. I regretted this movement. However, my army was still beautiful; my losses were little, and I hoped to crush the enemy forces of Volhynia and Dvina. But the cold increased so much that it was thought to be in the middle of January and not at the beginning of November. In a few days, 30,000 of my horses died, all my cavalry was on foot, and I was obliged to destroy most of my artillery. I recognized that there was no time to maneuver, and that I had to get closer to my arsenals. I ordered that Smolensk should be skipped, an operation of which Marshal Ney was charged.

I arrived in Krasnoi. The Cossacks, who soon perceived that we had no more cavalry, threw themselves between our columns. The men left the ranks to go, at night, to seek shelter against the frightful rigor of the climate; I did not have troops on horseback to protect them. The enemy, however, made vain efforts to profit by this situation of things; he was constantly attacked, and beaten every time he presented himself seriously. Marshal Ney, who had remained three days behind, marched on the left of the Borysthenes, and met at Orcha, without having experienced any other pearl than that of the material which he had been forced to destroy. I made myself rallied by the other corps remaining on the Dvina, and I marched on the Berezina, which I crossed in the sight of the enemy. I defeated Tchitchakof, and after having directed my army to Vilna, of which I left the command to the King of Naples, I went to my capital.

Your Majesty may appreciate the falsities charged by the Russian bulletins, if they have come to his knowledge. There was not a case where the Russians took a single cannon or a single eagle; they made no other prisoners, in the front of a bandière, but skirmishers, of whom we always take a certain number, even when we are beaten. My Guard never gave; it did not lose a single man in an action, so it could not lose eagles, as the Russian newsletters publish. When they say that they took 11,000 men from Marshal Ney, they betray another falsehood. What they say about the viceroy's affair and that of Krusnoi, where the Guard would have given, is nothing but a web of impostures, platitudes, and follies. No doubt many soldiers, officers, even generals have fallen into the hands of the enemy; but they fell there only because they had remained ill, or, seeking to escape the rigors of the cold suddenly carried to 24 or 26 degrees, they moved away from the roads of the army and marched isolated. The Russians took advantage of these unforeseen circumstances;[404]

they can rejoice, but they certainly can not boast of it.

The Grand Army, which I had left between Minsk and Vilna, would have remained in this town and its environs if the want of villages in front of Vilna and the excessive cold brought to 26 degrees would have determined the King of Naples to take cantonments below the Niemen. The Niemen was occupied by the Duke of Taranto and the Grandjean Division; the Heudelet division, which had taken no part in the last campaign, and the Loison division, were between the Niemen and Koenigsberg, where were the headquarters of the army and my Guard.

Seventeen divisions forming the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 9th Corps, under the orders of the Viceroy, the Prince of Eckmühl, the Dukes of Reggio, Elchingen and Bellune, occupy the positions of Elbing, Marienburg and Thorn, and around these cities very beautiful and abundant countries. The corps of the Prince of Schwarzenberg, and the 7th commanded by General Reynier, cover Warsaw, while the Bavarians meet at Plock, and the Westphalians and Wurtembergers are directed to Posen. Danzig, Elbing, Konigsberg, Thorn, Modlin have well stocked shops. Danzig alone has enough to supply the various corps with three hundred pieces of field artillery. The dismounted cavalry goes to the depots and to the Oder to receive horses. But besides the cavalry, the Grande Armée, in its present state, still has a force of 200,000 combatants.

To repair her losses, and to make her much stronger still than she was at the beginning of the last campaign, I had already prepared means which seemed to me sufficient. Forty battalions are on the Oder, where I ordered them to winter. They will be joined by the troops left from Italy, under the leadership of General Grenier, who have just passed into Bavaria, and form with them an army corps composed of old soldiers. Eighty-four battalions, taken from the hundred battalions of cohorts, composed of men between the ages of twenty-two and twenty-eight, and already for a year under the banner, meet at Hamburg to form a corps d'observation de la Elbe, who will have six divisions with the artillery and the necessary crews. Forty battalions which I ordered to gather at Verona will be able, in March, to cross the Tyrol and to go on the Oder. Eufln a first and a second observation corps of the Rhine, from seventy to eighty battalions each, are formed at Erfurt, Wesel, and Mainz.[405]

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Thus, independently of the Grand Army, and without removing anything from that of Spain, which has a strength of 300,000 men and a present under the arms of 260,000 men, I had available beyond three hundred battalions, all composed Frenchmen and, in large part, old troops that I fired from my camps on the coast and from my garrisons in France and Italy, and who, together with two divisions of my Guard, will be able to meet in March on the Elbe and the Oder. With this strength in men, with the ordinary revenues of my empire, which will be for the present year 1,100 millions, and having every reason to count on the fidelity of my allies, I had flattered myself that I had nothing to ask fresh efforts from my people, whose minds, moreover, are such that I have never had occasion to be more satisfied with them.

But this state of things has suddenly been changed by the treason of General York, who, with the Prussian corps of 20,000 men under his command, has sided with the enemy. On this occasion, Prussia has given me the strongest assurances of her intentions, and I have reason to believe them sincere; but they do not prevent his corps of troops from being with the enemy. The immediate consequences of this betrayal are that the King of Naples has had to retreat behind the Vistula, and that my pearls will be augmented by those made in the hospitals of Old Prussia. One of its distant consequences could be that the war approached Germany. I took all the proper steps to keep the borders of the Confederation; but all Confederate States must feel the necessity of making, on their side, efforts proportionate to what circumstances require. It is not only against the outside enemy that they have to protect themselves; they have one more dangerous to fear: the spirit of revolt and anarchy.

The Emperor of Russia has just appointed the Baron de Stein Minister of State; he admits it in his most intimate counsels, he and all those men who, aspiring to change the face of Germany, have long sought to achieve it by upheavals and revolutions. If these men can maintain, as they will endeavor to do, intelligence within the Confederation, and breathe the spirit that animates them, evils without number and without measure can suddenly melt on it. The energy that the sovereigns will develop depends on the tranquility of the peoples and the existence of the Houses which reign over the various Confederate States. I have guaranteed the existence of their princes, I have guaranteed them and their external enemies and those who, inside, would like to attack their[406]

authority. I will fulfill my commitments; the great sacrifices which I impose on my people, the great measures which I have just adopted have no other purpose than to fill them. But when I do everything for the Confederate sovereigns, I must hope that they will not abandon themselves and betray their own cause. They would betray her, if they did not compete with me in all their means, if they did not take the most effective measures to put in the best condition their infantry, their artillery, their cavalry especially, if they did not everything that depends on them for the war to be removed from Germany and that all the projects of the enemy are foiled. They would betray her again, by not placing the agitators of all kinds in the power of harm, by letting the public papers mislead public opinion by false news, or corrupt it by pernicious doctrines, by not watching, with a wary vigilance, and sermons and teaching, and all that may exert some influence on public tranquility.

I therefore ask Your Majesty not to neglect any of these measures, and to do everything to restore your contingent to the same position as it was before the war. The result of the joint efforts will be,

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1) On the letter addressed to the King of Wurtemberg, we read here, before the last paragraph, the following passage:

"What I am going to say to your Majesty is dictated by the sincere friendship which I bear to you: this letter being, moreover, entirely confidential to your Majesty, and foreign to the communications of the Cabinet, I can open my heart without reserve to Your Majesty. Your majesty, I have not been able to see with difficulty, I must confess it to him, that in the publication which he made to establish a new contribution, he suggested that the circumstances which made that contribution necessary did not hold him, and that click thus seemed to want to throw the blame on France. If great losses have been experienced, it is to the chances of war alone that they must be imputed. The losses of your Majesty are doubtless sensible; but those of France are even larger. The danger against the most important thing to protect oneself is the agitation of the people. But how can one hope to prevent it, if the sovereigns themselves have a language to excite it? The necessity of renouncing the concurrence of your Majesty would have been a less painful thing for me. When from two nations which must be friends one is encouraged, so to speak, to jealousy of the other, nothing gives it more surely to this a spirit of anxiety and change, of which the princes would be the first victims. For the instigators of the troubles, as Austria has acquired certainty when she seized the papers of the Sieur Grumer, are also enemies of all the Cappadocian princes; their hatred abides none, to create what they call a Germany is the goal they aim for, and they want to get there - through anarchy and revolutions, which, after having despaired the various states, would leave them to the thank you for the strongest."[407]

in a second campaign, the triumph of the common cause, or, if the enemy wishes to prevent this campaign by negotiations, we shall have, in the greatness of our preparations, the sure guarantee of an honorable and sure peace, the first condition will be to maintain all that exists, and not to touch in any way the laws constituting the Confederation, nor the interests of its sovereigns.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S.A.I. Prince Jerome.

19463. - TO THE GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Paris, January 19, 1813.

Count Cessac, I want to form five stores three on the Oder, one in Spandau and one in Magdeburg. The first four shall be equal, each consisting of 25,000 quintals of flour contained in sacks, 1,000 quintals of rice, 1,000 of vegetables and 1 million bushels of oats; the fifth store at Magdeburg will be double the others; which will therefore give me 150,000 quintals of flour, 6,000 of vegetables and 6 million bushels of oats. Please let me know what these five stores would cost me, and how to train them. Swedish Pomerania might be required to train Stettin's.

This supply must be independent of that of the seat of the four places, which must be assumed complete. The supply of Mageburg is to be provided by the King of Westphalia. I suppose complete the supply of the citadel of Erfurt; if it were not, you would give orders to complete it at once. It is necessary that Wesel and Mayence be supplied with flour, wheat, and vegetables, in order to provide for the support of the troop gatherings which are to take place in these two places. This supply must be at least 25,000 quintals of flour, and completed no later than 20 February.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war,

19464. - TO M. MARET, DUC OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Fontainebleau. January 20, 1813.

The Duke of Bassano, the headquarters of the King of Naples is on Posen, I do not know how will behave the[408]

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Commander and the Prussians of Graudenz. It would be proper for the King of Prussia to send 2,000 cavalrymen to the King at Posen; it is the best way to protect some of its states from incursions.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19465, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 20, 1813.

Cousin, I have not yet received any account of the situation of the cavalry depots. I do not know where are the regiments and the generals who command them. However, there must be a lot of cavalry in Berlin, Hanover, Posen, Warsaw and other points. It is very necessary not to make the cavalry act in regiments of march, not to make it march thus in anticipation, but on the contrary to reunite it by regiment, and especially to send back the executives and the useless generals. If cavalry are not united by regiment, and made to act by regiments of march, all will be lost.

I asked the King of Saxony to establish under Glogau's protection an infantry and cavalry observation corps which could protect his states against the Cossack races, if they reached so far. I guess the three places Stettin, Küstrin and Glogau are well ordered and in good stall. You do not miss the army either of artillery troops or of engineers; throw in these places. I suppose you have a number with the Danzig, Thorn and Modlin commanders.

General Lauriston will have his headquarters on February 15 in Magdeburg. The troops that make up his observation corps of the Elbe are already starting to spin, and by the end of February his first divisions will arrive on Magdeburg. On 1 February, General Souham will take up his headquarters with the 1st Division of the Rhine Observation Corps in Frankfurt. There is in France a very great movement. Make known to General Colbert that I have just carried the 2nd regiment of lancers of my Guard to eight squadrons and to 2,000 men, and that these men will be existing and all mounted to the regiment before the 20th of February. I take for this recruitment all mounted riders that the cantons of the military division voluntarily provide me. Let General Guyot know that I am carrying my regiment of chasseurs to 2,000 men,[409]

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of whom 1,000 were former soldiers and 1,000 were also fired by 1st Division volunteer horsemen. The 3rd regiment of lancers of the guard, which I had formed at Vilna, must have been melted in the first. I suppose that Krasinski took all the necessary steps to carry his regiment as high as possible.

It is between the Oder and the Elbe that we must assemble our cavalry. I have not received any report from the Duke of Istria: I do not know where he is.

I have already told you that we must send back to Mayence, 1st all the men on foot from my guard on horseback; 2nd all men who become useless, keeping only as many cadres as there are companies of 100 men. May all this return to Mainz, the men of the cavalry as well as those of the artillery, the train, the engineers, the military equipages and the infantry. I have not been given any information on the generals who seem to have lost, nor on those who exist, nor on the administrations, doctors, surgeons, & c.

I end up recommending to you again to send back all that is useless to you. We must first send them back to Magdeburg and send them the statements; I will then send them further orders for their destination.

Order the Duke of Castiglione to arm not only the citadel of Spandau, but also the town, which forms an entrenched camp.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19466. – TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, AT POSEN.

Fontainebleau. January 20, 1813.

Cousin, Grenier's division arrives in Berlin at this moment; he is tired and has many young soldiers; his artillery and his administration are not in a sufficiently complete state. I think, therefore, that it must be left, for if you make it work, it is a corps of 25,000 men lost, and which, if spared, would be of great advantage to us for the next campaign.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[410]

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19467. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 20, 1813.

My cousin, order my aide-de-camp Hogendorp to go to Spandau, where he will take command of the city and the citadel. You will instruct him to put the one and the other in the best state of defense possible, to assure the armament and the supply, and, independently of his official correspondences, to write to me often. Make him understand the importance of this central position which dominates Berlin, and tell him that I rely on his fidelity and his vigilance.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19468. - TO THE GENERAL COUNTY OF LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 20, 1813.

General Lauriston, on the 23rd you will have left Paris.

You will go straight to Wesel. You will find there the cohorts who must form the three regiments composing your 3rd division. I charged the Duke of Padua to form these regiments. As they belong to you, you will see them in detail. You will remain at Wesel for the time necessary, and you will deny your opinion of the officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers, the armaments, clothing, equipment, and chiefs and colonels I have appointed. Since it's an office job, you have to make sure they're good colonels. If I had made a bad choice, you would let me know. You will finally let me know in what situation these regiments are. As with these cohorts of brigade generals, you will choose the best. You will also inform me of the state of the situation and the arming of the Place de Wesel and Fort Napoleon. You do not need to wait for further orders to conduct this division on Magdeburg, in case you find it sufficiently rested and organized.

You will go from there to Osnabruck, where another division must be organized.

Finally you will go to Hamburg, where you will already find the regiments of your 1st division.

I think you must direct these three divisions, without delay, to Magdeburg. The 134th, or former regiment of Paris, has four battalions[411]

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in Erfurt; you will direct them to Magdeburg to rejoin their division. You will take care to write to me every day by the courier and in detail. In the meantime, you will be directing all your staff and crews to Magdeburg, where you need to be yourself from February 10th to 15th. You will immediately get in touch with General Michaud, who commands at Magdeburg; you will also be in correspondence with the commander of Torgau. The whole country between the Elbe and the Rhine is part of the district of your army. The Minister of War must have given you a general to command your artillery, and an officer to command the genie. You will correspond with each other to accelerate the formation of the artillery, which will be directed to Magdeburg.

Your 4th division, composed of the three regiments which are formed at Paris, will have arrived at Mayence towards the end of February; he will continue his journey to join you in Magdeburg.

On your return from Hamburg, you will pass to Cassel; you will see all the troops that the King has organized, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, to form a division under your command; it will be your 5th division, and it will supplement you, I hope, with 40,000 infantrymen. You will write me in detail all that you have obtained from the King. If the circumstances are not urgent, your troops will be quartered three or four days from Magdeburg, to have time to receive their artillery and military crews. I do not think that the military crew which I intend for you, and which is formed at Sampigny, can leave before the end of February. You will take great care in arming and supplying Magdeburg and Torgau.

Before leaving Paris, the Minister will have made you know everything what I intend you for infantry, artillery, and engineers; he does not will have said nothing of the cavalry, because I have not yet the necessary information. But, as of tomorrow, you must send one of your most intelligent aides-de-camp to Hannover, to go through the cavalry depots, to know the past markets, the horses that exist, the men available, how many generals, officers superior, of particular officers, where are the remains of regiments or detachments of regiments. This officer, whom you will hold at Hanover, will correspond with you to Wesel, and you will thus be sure of all the cavalry which is to be formed. My intention is not to form temporary regiments, but that all detachments meet by regiment to form good divisions[412]

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cavalry. You will take special care of yourself. You will go to Hanover, and give me a general report of all that is lacking and what can be hoped for.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19469. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUC OF FIUOUL,
GRAND MARECHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 20, 1813.

Monsieur le Duc de Frioul, write to the Grand Equerry and make a concert with him to find out where my crews are and when I can send some portions of my service. It is necessary that by the 15th of February a party can start up. I would like everything I have in the army to go to Magdeburg. It is on this point that I would like to be able to return, if necessary, in the first days of March, and to gather all my crews.

The order must also be given to all my aides-de-camp, order-officers and other officers composing my house, so that all the crews they have with the army are united on this point, and those who they are here ready to depart on February 1. Give me detailed information on what each of my aides-de-camp and commanders have in the army, what they have to say here, and if they have all that is necessary to reorganize, this also applies to my aides-de-camp's aides.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Imperial Library.

19470. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 21, 1813.

Please send me a report on the Swiss regiments; let me know the number of company executives these regiments have at the Grande Armée, the number of cadres who remain in France, the conscripts they have and those they must receive following the capitulation.

Switzerland will only supply 3,000 conscripts; these 3,000 conscripts can only complete three battalions; however, I must have cadres for a lot more; my intention would be, if that is so, to supplement them with conscripts from the[413]

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they will raise them, and I will then use them to recruit the regiments of the army; it is the way to use officers and non-commissioned officers who cost a lot without rendering any service.

It is essential to have a fixed magazine inspector for these regiments, and who is responsible if there are no soldiers who are not Swiss. As much as I do Swiss, as I do not care about all the foreign scoundrel they pick up. At the beginning of the campaign, all the Swiss regiments lost three quarters of their world; many deserted, and it turned out that all were former deserters who had been engaged; the real Swiss have remained, and although it has reduced the battalions to nothing, they have done well. So I hear that there is someone responsible, someone I can blame if any German or any foreigner enters a Swiss regiment.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19471. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau. January 21, 1813.

I recommend Burgos and Santona, and also the bridgehead of the Bidassoa. My intention is that you hold your hands to have funds in Burgos, and that we work actively to restore the fortifications and to strengthen those of Santona. This is the good season. We must make masonry on the height of Saint-Michel, restore the curtain and do not spare anything. As for the bridgehead of the Bidassoa, I want to have a good tower and masonry, such as 100 men make me constantly master of the bridge. Give money and positive orders for that.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19472. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 21, 1813.

The citadel of Erfurt must be placed in a state of siege. I have made known to you by my letter of today the measures to be taken for cuts of wood for the works of the engineers, for those of the artillery and for the supply. My intention is that you appoint an engineer commander, an artillery commander, a storekeeper[414]

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a siege supply and a commissioner of war, and that you submit to my signature shipments of letters of patent, as I did, the past campaign, for Palmanova.

The places of Stettin, Küstrin, Glogau, Magdeburg and Spaudau must be in the same situation. Submit me letters of patent for the commanders and the commissioners of the wars, so that they can not be moved by anybody:

Do the same thing for Danzig; I do not know if we will be in time for this city; I think General Rapp already has a degree. At Spandau it will be General Hogendorp.

My intention is that henceforth the generals, as well as the commanders of the engineers and the artillery and the commissioners of the wars, can not be moved from these places without a positive order from me, since they answer me of the safety of these places.

I suppose that Erfurt is sufficiently supplied and armed; the artillery office will decide. It should not waste time to put it in good condition. I will then be informed of all that has been done, both for the fortifications and the artillery.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19473. - TO THE COUNT MOLLIEN, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURE, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 21, 1813.

Count Mollien, I want you to do some work on the funds that exist at the Grande Armée. Send a new payer first.

I think that a central fund should be established at Magdeburg with which you will correspond, and which will have the handling of the funds of Hamburg, Mainz, and so on. This would form a main fund. There should be a steward, and he would send to the different army corps according to the circumstances and what you would prescribe. He would be under your direct orders, and would have the faculty necessary to judge events, in order to put the funds in security according to the circumstances. If this institution had taken place, we would not have lost so much money. It would be necessary that all the payments of the Grand Army be made in bills of exchange and mandates on this fund, even if we had to lose something with that. It is better for all suppliers to be paid at a central point, than to drag money and to be forced to pay everywhere. This individual being there under the orders of nobody and corresponding every day with you, his accountancy will be more in order. It would be a[415]

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a kind of treasury fund which would fill the credits which you would open to the different payers, and pay on their behalf the different orders.

Indeed, how can it be conceived that a single paymaster of the army who follows the headquarters, who is sometimes in the middle of a camp, sometimes is obliged to serve on a territory of five or six hundred leagues, may suffice? It would be as well to say that the Minister of the Treasury would follow my headquarters. No doubt Paris is too far to make the payments; but Magdeburg is a central point.

The paymaster of the army will be under the orders of this director of treasury; he will receive the most necessary funds for the pay, and will pay on his credits in terms of money on this fund. You understand enough what I mean. I had to complain about the payer of the Grand Army. In fact, it must also be admitted that his work was too difficult; he has lost me many millions in consequence of the circumstances, and also because it has been foolish to have at Vilna, which is an open place, up to ten millions at a time. Abundance has hurt us.

While waiting for this to be established, I wish to have in the week the work I am asking you, and to know what arrangements you are making for sending money. I have already lost enough money; let us not lose any more. Defend that there is a cash register in Berlin; the cash register must be in Spandau. Demand that the payer remain in Spandau, there are only three leagues. There are also cases in Stetlin, Küstrin, and Glogau, but small crates supplied by Magdeburg Central Bank. Prescribe by the courier of today that all the funds which were in Berlin go to Magdeburg; that there is no fund in Berlin; that there should be one at Spandau, but that it should not contain more than 500,000 francs; lastly, that the paymaster of the army should do his duty as much as he can on the Magdeburg fund, and that he should not have more than a million in his power. Many generals, officers, and administrators willingly use cash papers and treasury bills; there is no objection to the payer having them in his box, as much as you think necessary.

I also ask you to give me an account of all the funds you have beyond the Rhine, at Hamburg and in the 32nd Military Division, and at Hannover. You will report to me on that. It must be calculated that troubles can occur in this country: we must therefore ensure that, in the case arriving, we experience the least possible loss.[416]

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It is necessary not only for you to look at the treasury coffers belonging to you, but also at the customs and collection offices, so that arrangements can be made for these cases to remain poorly stocked. You must also make a regulation so that the caissons of the treasury following the armies are hitched with eight very good horses, always have top-of-the-line horses, and that there are carters of choice.

It is necessary that you make me know the whole situation of your service beyond the Rhine; tell me what you would like to do and the needs you may have, so that I can rectify your ideas; The information you can receive from the war offices would be faulty.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.

19474. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, TO POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 22, 1813.

My Son, take command of the Grand Army. I am sorry I did not leave it to you when I left; I flatter myself that you would have returned more slowly and that I would not have experienced such great losses. Past evil is without remedy.

You will write to me every day and in detail.

As soon as you can do without the Major General, send him back. See also Count Daru, if General Dumas is in a state.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchteuberg.

19475. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, TO POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 22, 1813.

My Son, hold my Guard, either on foot or on horseback, and as many company executives as you have 100 men; return the rest to Mainz.

Send all the artillery personnel of the Guard, either the train or the military crews, and make sure that the commanders address here to the grand marshal, to whom I gave the command, the state of situation of what is on the way, making known the day when these detachments arrive at Mainz.

Be careful to dismiss General Friant, commander of the grenadiers, and General Curial, commander of the chasseurs; I do not have[417]

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need for the organization. General Roguet will be able to command all the Guards infantry.

The few cavalry that will be able to remain (and I do not suppose that this passes 600 horses, that is to say, in condition, is lame), give it the command to a good officer of my Guard, either Guyot, Exelmans or Major Letort.

Sorbier will remain to command in chief the artillery of the army. You will return the other two artillery brigade generals of the Guard. Head to Mainz.

Bring back from Warsaw, to increase the Guard, two elite battalions of Tuscany and Piedmont, and the two companies of guardians of honor of Tuscany and Piedmont; also the companies of guards of honor and the companies of the Italian guard who are in Glogau.

If the gunners of the Guard had horses and the train had them too, you could take them for other corps of the army. Thus, by this means, you would also dismiss all Brigadier Generals.

It is also necessary to send back to me the ordering of the Guard, retaining only a commissioner of the wars. The authorizing officer will go alone to Paris.

You will entrust the Duke of Treviso with the command of the Guard, to which will be added the Italian Guard and the Neapolitan Guard.

By this means you will get rid of many generals and officers, and much embarrassment. All returning to Mainz and in the interior of France will recover, will disintegrate and will be in the case to leave with me in March.

As soon as you have taken these measures, send the Duke of Istria, the commissary, General Friaut, and the general commander of the chasseurs to the post.

You will let me know where are the 1st battalion of the 2nd regiment of the voltigeurs of the Guard and the 1st battalion of the 2nd of the tirailleurs, who were at Stettin with 1,800 men bearing arms. I would like these two battalions to continue to stay in Stettin. As there are two majors, I ordered one rest to command two battalions, and the other to return to Paris to command the other two battalions.

The Guard is organized with great force. I already have a division of 10,000 men here, and I need officers and cadres to receive the men who come from all sides.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.[418]

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19476. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, At POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 22, 1813.

My son, you will keep Count Dumas with all the administration.

We have not yet written that Desgenettes was dead; we only know it indirectly. Name among the doctors who are in the army a doctor to perform the duties of chief physician. Include all hospitals in the strongholds. Return to Magdeburg all unnecessary doctors and surgeons.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A, I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19177, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, TO POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 22, 1813.

My Son, I wish to have the situation of the garrison left at Danzig.

General Rapp undoubtedly commands; I must know the generals who remained under his orders. The supplies of wheat and vegetables must be immense; those in fodder and meat, he was able to procure easily; so I reckon that this place must be able to hold a year. I suppose you have a number with General Rapp. I suppose there are at least ten complete artillery companies there, those who did not run the campaign.

The Major General told me that there were at Thorn 3,000 men, with four companies of French artillery. I do not know who the commander was left there, as well as the engineer and the artillery officer. I know that supplies are immense, at least in flour, wheat, vegetables, and oats. So I expect that place will hold until I come to clear it. You must also have a number with this place.

You can ask the King of Saxony for 500 Saxons to increase the Glogau garrison. You can also use what remains of Westphalians to augment either Glogau's or Stettin's garrisons.

Put a garrison of choice of 1,500 men, if circumstances require it, at Küstrin; this is the most important place.

I have already ordered General Hogendorp to go to Spandau to take command of the citadel and the fort and to collect a supply for one year.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchteuberg.[419]

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19478. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, TO POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 22, 1813.

My son, the Italian cavalry will be up like the French cavalry. I think that all the Italian cavalry cadres who do not have men should all be sent to Bamberg or Baireuth, and that you have to go through the markets for the returns, writing in Italy to bring conscripts and having saddles on the premises. It will be, it seems to me, preferable to send those executives back to Italy, where they might not find horses.

Same thing for Italian military crews. Get Italian conscripts and train them in Bamberg, Baireuth or Nuremberg. We will refit the wagons and we will complete the men.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A.I., the Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19479. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GRANDE ARMY, AT POSHN.

Fontainebleau, January 22, 1813.

My son, the three Polish regiments who came from Spain and who were part of the corps of the Duke de Bellune, are in my pay. Complete them and spare nothing to make them as strong as possible; same as the four regiments of the Vistula; same as the three Lithuanian regiments on foot and the two on horseback. That makes twelve regiments that must be tried to complete and by making the necessary expense on my treasure. You can form these Poles into corps, and give the command to a marshal.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S, A, I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19480. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 22, 1813.

My Son, I have no information yet on the state of the cavalry at the Grand Army; I do not know where the different regiments are; I do not have any lessons on the returns, I do not know how many have been done, nor where are the horses; I have no information on the harness, I do not know where are the saddles sent by the minister of the administration of the war. Please let me know what you know about it.[420]

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It is necessary to unite all the detachments of the different regiments between the Oder and the Elbe; to do this, return what is in Warsaw, so as not to scatter my cavalry and to unite all the detachments to reform the regiments.

You have many useless cavalry generals; send them all back to France; keep only three or four divisional generals and the number of brigadier generals that will be required to monitor the returns and command the various brigades and divisions at the time of their meeting.

It is no longer necessary for the cavalry to give provisional regiments; we would lose everything; it is essential to unite the bodies.

General Bourcier does not write to us; the steward gives no information, so that we know nothing.

I have already told you and I repeat: send all the executives back to France and keep as many company executives as you will have 100 men on foot or on horseback.

You will let me know if the markets in Hamburg, Glogau, Berlin, Posen, and Warsaw, have procured for you or will be able to procure a sufficient number of horses for you to walk up the men you have on foot.

Return the colonels, keeping the squadron leaders, for regiments reduced to less than two squadrons; keep the colonels of the regiments of which you would have two squadrons on foot or on horseback. You feel how much the presence of these colonels to their regiments would be useful and necessary.

I made sure of 25,000 horses, and the cantons supply 30,000 mounted men; it will carry my cavalry, which will leave in the course of March and April, to more than 50,000 men. But it is important that you dismiss all officers, non-commissioned officers and useless cadres.

Send me the state of the distribution of the cavalry on foot, the place where it is.

Order the generals commanding these different portions of cavalry, the colonels or officers who command isolated regiments and detachments, General Bourcier, and the generals commanding the depots of Berlin, etc., to send extraordinary reports by special courier to the Minister of War. Extraordinary courier can go to Berlin and Magdeburg, where they will find the general courier.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.[421]

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19481.- TO FREDÉRIC-AUGUSTE, KING OF SAXONY, IN DRESDEN.

Fontainebleau. January 22, 1813.

Brother, I have received the letter which Your Majesty has written to me by the Baron de Saint-Just. I will see with pleasure that your Majesty accredits him near me.

I beg your Majesty to put the place of Torgau in a state of defense, to see that it is perfectly armed and supplied, and to send me information on its present situation. I already suppose it safe from a hand. It is proper that you appoint a commander there, that you should place there officers of the engineers and artillery, and that every precaution be taken to preserve this bridge on the Elbe; that, without precipitating anything, and without raising the alarm, your Majesty should bring to this fortified point arms and utensils of war, which should no longer exist at Dresden, since that city is an open place.

Events since my departure from the army, General York's betrayal have worsened our affairs on the North; but, in motion, such forces, that at the right season the enemies, some progress they make, will be brought back faster than they have come.

I receive from the King of Prussia the most repeated proofs of his good faith. The King of Denmark has just made me known, a few days ago, that he is unshakeable. Your Majesty must have information on the court of Austria: everything the Emperor writes to me and all that he tells me to say shows that not only must I have no anxiety on this side, but that The Emperor is determined to make greater efforts than the past campaign.

I would like to know the place where your majesty unites its infantry and cavalry, and the measures it intends to take to protect Saxony from the Cossack races, if the enemy continues to advance. I think the best way would be to put together an observation corps to cover Saxony against the enemy's light troops and maneuver under the protection of Glogau.

The movement given in this country is such, that I have already offers for 60,000 equipped horses, and mounted by the same number of men who have already made war. On all sides, towns, cantons, and private individuals concur in these voluntary donations. I expect that on the 1st of March, the observation corps of the Elbe will be largely united on this river. General Sonham, commander of the[422]

1st division of the corps of the Rhine, will have its headquarters, from 1 to 5 February, in Frankfurt, and its troops in Frankfurt and Hanau.

I beg your Majesty to write to me sometimes confidentially, and to send me a bulletin of all that comes to your knowledge, either of the movement of my troops or of the movement of the enemy. I also ask her to tell me what troops she may have, by the 1st of March, assembled in Saxony, infantry, cavalry, and artillery.

Independently of the two millions which I placed at the disposal of the minister of finance of the duchy when I passed to Warsaw, I put others at the disposal of M. Bignon to supply the armaments of the Grand Duchy.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19482. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Fontainebleau, January 23, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the regiments of the Grande Armée had five battalions in the army; but they have suffered considerably, and it is proper to give the following orders:

The cadres of the five battalions will be reduced to four.

The 1st battalion will remain in the army; he will receive and understand in his staff all that will be available in the five battalions, all that would come out of the hospitals, as well as all the men of the 5th battalions which formed the garrisons of the ships and which, in whatever place they are at Metz, Mainz or Berlin, must receive the order to join their 1st battalions to the army.

The cadres of the 2nd battalions will be ordered to go to Erfurt, where they will receive 700 conscripts each, who will be sent to them from France dressed, armed and equipped; which will complete them.

The cadres of the 3rd and 6th battalions will go to the depots, where they will be completed with what will remain at the depots of the levy of the 100,000 men, so that, in the course of April, these two battalions of each regiment will be able to walk and train the reserve corps.

Finally, the 6th battalions called *bis*, which are now reorganized in the interior, will be used to receive the conscription of 1814, and will serve the interior during 1813.

As a result of the foregoing provisions, it is necessary that, in respect of what is intended to form the reserve, in accordance with your statement No. 9 attached to your letter of January 22, the deposits of the sixteen regiments[423]

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from the 1st Corps receive from you the order to send each 700 men without cadres to go to Erfurt.

You will send for the same destination the same number of men from the six regiments that make up the 2nd corps, the six regiments that make up the 3rd corps, which will provide for the recruitment of twenty-eight battalions from the army. Order the commanders of the military divisions to send these men out of their depots in the first half of February. The depots will make leave with these 700 men as many officers and non-commissioned officers as they can give. The men must be well dressed, armed, well equipped, be at least a month under arms, and leave only after burning six cartridges in white and two to the target.

Send General Brigadier Doucet to Erfurt: he is well equipped to organize troops. You will charge him with the formation of these twenty - eight battalions and correspond with you and the Major General for all the details. He will bring together the officers arriving from the army and the conscripts arriving from France, and after completing the formation of these 2nd battalions, he will canton them in the neighborhood of Erfurt and Leipzig, where they will await new orders.

It is essential that you warn of these provisions, by the courier, the viceroy and the major general, and the commanders of Magdeburg and Erfurt, so that the cadres of the regiments of the Grand Army which are en route to have them and that the order be given to them to leave the framework of their 2nd whole battalion at Erfurt to receive their conscripts.

General Doucet will depart so as to be returned to Erfurt on the 1st of February, he will have detailed instructions, and will pay the greatest attention to what is going on at Erfurt, in order to retain the 2nd battalions which he is to assemble.

If there remained in the army officers for the 6th battalions, they would be directed on the depots, where they would find the 6th battalions *bis* that form there and which will take henceforth the name of the 6th battalions.

Finally send the Viceroy to send to Erfurt a general of division of the 1st corps, who will take command of these twenty-eight battalions when they are organized, two brigadier generals of the 1st corps, one of the 2nd corps, one of the 3rd, who will share the command of the battalions of their corps. As the battalions are organized, the general of division will move them to Leipzig, where he will establish his headquarters and await further orders.

Recommend to the majors to make deposits from[424]

well-behaved, well-dressed, well-armed, well-equipped and regimented at least a month ago.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war,

19483. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau January 23, 1813,

Mr. Duke de Feltre, I am responding to your report of the 22nd on the situation of the engineer troops at the Grande Armée.

I think it is essential that you repeat the orders so that the executives of the four companies of miners return to Metz; that all the executives of the companies of sappers also return to their deposit, except those which are necessary for the whole companies which will be preserved with the Grande Armée; finally, that the three companies of the engineer train which are at the Grande Armée form one, and that the cadres of the two others return to Metz.

Present me a draft decree to choose among the naval workers, whose Minister of Marine has 1,400 more than he needs, men of twenty-two years of age who have more than two years of service and have the qualities required. With these men, you will carry the full complement of artillery workers, engineers and miners. You can have 1,200 of these men without inconvenience.

Present me also a draft decree to complete the two battalions of pontonniers, taking in the conscripts of the navy of the men of twenty - two years, knowing to swim and being on board since more than two years, Take also of these men for workers.

By this means, the workers, the pontooners and the miners will be worn in full.

The miners will stay in Metz to practice and train themselves at the mine; two companies are sufficient for the Grande Armée.

Complete the artillerymen by pouring from one company into the other, and summon the officers who, on arriving, will find some marine workers to supplement each other.

Order that all the men of the Danube battalion be incorporated into the battalion of the Scheldt, whose officers will be carried to the full complement by taking in the battalion of the Danube the officers and sub-officers which would be necessary, and that which will remain of this battalion returns to Antwerp.[425]

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With these arrangements, you can remove from the distribution of 100,000 men what you intended for the workers and pontonniers, and increase by the same the artillery train.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19484. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 23, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the little libretto of the 26th military division is badly made; we do not see the number of battalion cadres present in the division.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19185. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau. January 23, 1813.

I approved the distribution of the conscription of 100,000 men. I have just issued a decree by which I place at your disposal the twelve battalions of the navy; and as there are many old soldiers there, I decided to double these battalions, and, instead of twelve, to form twenty-four. These battalions, 840 men, will form me a suit of 20,000 men. Now, there are only 16,000 today; it is therefore 4,000 men that I will still need. Of these 4,000 men, I desire to have 2,000 provided on the conscription of 100,000 men and 2,000 on the conscription of 1814. By the decree you will see the distribution I have made of these 4,000 men, artillery and engineers. You will receive it tonight. Inform the director of the conscription, who can always dispatch orders around Paris, and then to Brest, Toulon and Cherbourg.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19186. - DECISION.

Fontainebleau. January 23, 1813.

The minister of war informs the Emperor that the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of the 1st battalion of the National Guard of the Aude, ask to be summoned to the Grand Army.	Approved. To direct them on Lyon. NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.[426]

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19487. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 23, 1813.

Monsieur le Comte de Cessac, the 300 cuirassier horses offered by the Senate and the 100 dragon horses offered by the Council of State must be supplied in Paris; all the horses which the arbitrary guilds of Paris will offer must be given to the Guard; this will simplify all Paris operations.

As almost all departments double and triple the proportion according to which I have calculated, it must not disturb your work; you will leave to give to the same regiments, which, instead of receiving 100 men, as was the first distribution, will receive 150 or 200. This does not change the case, and, in the final account, we will see the excess that there would be to distribute.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19488. - TO VICE-ADMIRAL COUNT DECRÈS,
MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 23, 1813.

I can not bring myself to diminish my maritime armaments; I am not in a position to weigh 12 or 15 millions against the reaction which this diminution would produce on the minds of my sailors and my enemies. The only thing I can consent to is not to increase my armaments in Holland and on the Scheldt; but my intention is to increase them as much as possible at Toulon, Rochefort, Brest, and Cherbourg.

I wish, therefore, to have at Texel a squadron equal to that which I had there last year; I only consent that we do not arm a vessel of 64 in order to arm the two new frigates, for I have great impatience to have at the Texel the two frigates of the French armed model. I have no objection to disarming the Dutchman, if this vessel is a Dutch ship; but I can not consent to disarm the *Illustre*, the *Anversois*, the *Duguesclin*, the *Caesar*, the *Ville-de-Bedin*, the *Commerce-de-Lyon*, and the *Danzig*. There is no difficulty in disarming the *Tromp* and the *Chatham*. You see that I only consent to the disarmament of the Dutch ships, which I wish to keep as good flutes in the Antwerp basin, to serve at the moment when I will be in the case of undertaking maritime operations.[427]

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I do not want the *Castiglione* to be disarmed in Venice; that would be the worst effect.

Independently of *Wesel*, *Trace, Montenotte, Zeland*, etc., I wish to arm a vessel at Brest. My intention is that the buildings be pushed in 1813 with the same activity as in 1811 and 1812; but I consent to that; instead of putting the ships in the water and working to arm them, we build only an equal amount of twenty-fourths, spread over a number of ships, so that I can launch twenty or so in a single year, when I will be in the case of taking care of naval operations.

During 1812 I had eight ships on the Texel and five frigates. I consent not to arm the *Aurora* and the *Maria*, who seem to me to be bad frigates, and that only the *Meuse*, the *Yssel*, the *Trave*, and the *Weser* are armed there. If necessary, we can, as I said, disarm one of the ships of 64.

I need to train sailors; I was named Texel as the place that was the cleanest.

La Couronne and the *l'Audacieux* are very little advanced in Amsterdam; the *Polyphème* is not even begun. I would like all three to be pushed so that they could be launched in 1814, if that were necessary. I consent not to launch in 1813 the *Piethein* and *Amastel*; but these two buildings must be advanced enough to be launched in March 1814.

I have fourteen ships on the building sites in Antwerp. Three of these vessels, the *Monarque*; the *Hymen* and the *Superb*, should have been launched in 1813; they must be pushed in such a way that they may be launched in March 1814, if it is convenient. Of the eleven others, you will push six above the 16 twenty-fours, so as to see them launch in March, April and June 1814; and the other five above the 8 twenty-fours, so that they could easily be launched in 1815. The three frigates on the Antwerp shipyards will be pushed so that they can be launched in 1814.

If you bring out the two frigates that are at Dunkirk, you will have to give them carte blanche, because, the English expecting to see them go to Flessingue, they might enter Brest or Cherbourg more easily, provided they were armed so that they could keep the sea for several months.

The Jupiter, the *Centaure*, and the *Inflexible* must be pushed to Cherbourg, so that they may be in the water in 1814. The *Le Zelandais* and the[428]

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Duguay-Trouin are finished. That will make me seven ships at Cherbourg, including the two that I already have there.

I wish the *Orion* to be launched as soon as possible at Brest, and that at Lorient the *Brabancon*, the *Magnifique*, the *Algeciras*, and the *Jean-Bart* be pushed so as to be launched, the first in 1814, and the three others in 1815.

It would be convenient to put at Rochefort, on the shipyard, the vessel of 80, which would make me six vessels that I could have in 1814 or 1815.

In Toulon, I want buildings to be pushed as quickly as possible. I do not see that you wanted to launch any building in 1813. It will be necessary to launch the *Heros*, to put the ship of 118 on the building site, and to push the work so that the Colossus and the Kremlin can be in the water in 1814.

In Genoa, the Scipio and the Brilliant must be pushed so that they can be launched in 1814.

As for Venice, we must not diminish the work. The kingdom of Italy could not pay me 30 millions, especially at a time when it is empty of troops, if I did not help it by making expenses. My intention is to spend as much in Venice in 1813 as in 1812. Propose me the best distribution of this sum. The *Duquesne* and *Montenotte*, as well as the *Amphitrite*, should be launched immediately at Venice. He must push the ..... (1) so that it can be in the water in 1814. With the two ships that I have in Venice, it will make me five, and with the three ships Italian I will have a fleet of eight ships.

As for the levies of 1813, take all the conscripts which belong to you; my intention is not to diminish my state of the sea, and if you lose a year it would be without remedy.

Write your budget on these bases and make it precede the account of 1812. You had announced much more work than you have done. I see that you have put only one vessel in the water, which is the *Montebello*.

I would like to have in September, 1814, at Toulon, seven vessels with three bridges, two of 80, seventeen of 74; total, twenty-six; in Venice, five; which will make me thirty-one ships in the Mediterranean, and with the three Italians and the two Neapolitans, thirty-six vessels; at Rochefort, eleven vessels, four to three decks; at Lorient, three vessels; at Brest, seven, including one to three decks; at Cherbourg, seven, one to three decks; what would make me in the Ocean

1) This gap is in the text.[429]

twenty-eight vessels, six to three of which are decks. Finally, for the Scheldt, thirty vessels, two to three decks, and ten for the Texel; in all one hundred and four ships.

By then establishing the system of garrisons and naval gunners, and having a good number of seamen exercised, we will have a navy capable of imposing on the enemy.

In your budget, you will carry as food and other items of this nature that will no longer be paid to the troops who leave the service of the navy.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19489. - TO THE COUNT OF MONTALIVET,
MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 23, 1813.

I approve that the addresses of the cantons and small towns are put in the *Moniteur* only by extracts. But for large cities, and even for those over 5,000 souls, addresses with signatures must be inserted in full: it would be inappropriate that Rome, Genoa, etc., do not see their addresses in the *Moniteur*.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19490. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GRANDE ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau. January 2nd, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of the 16th. I have already told you that I am pleased to see the command of the army in your hands. I find the conduct of the King very extravagant and such that it is far from anything that I make him stop for the example. He is a good man on the battlefield, but lacks combination and moral courage.

I am very sorry to know if we have not left a few Frenchmen at Thorn.

The Duke of Elchingen wrote to me. Use this marshal, which is necessary for you.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A .. I. The Duchess of Leucbtenberg.[430]

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19491. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT AIIMÉE, A POSEN

Fontainebleau, January 23, 1813.

My son, send back to France all the generals, warrant officers and staff officers who have been wounded. Return to their depots in France all the officers or non - commissioned officers who have been wounded. At this moment there are 1,500 men at each Grande Armée depot, dressed, equipped and in good condition; all this needs officers and NCOs.

Complete the cadres of the 1st battalion of each regiment, incorporate all the available men in the corps, all the men available to the hospitals, all the men of the 5th battalions who formed the garrisons of ships and who must be in Berlin or on the way to return. Return the frames of the other battalions to France. The cadres of the 2nd battalions completed will remain at Erfurt, as you will see from my letter of this day to the Minister of War, of which I send you a copy. These cadres of battalions will each receive, in Erfurt, 7 to 800 men. Place majors second to command these battalions in pairs.

The cadres of the 3rd and 4th battalions will go to France to their depots, where, on their arrival, they will find something to be put to the full with the raising of 100,000 men. By this means, you will have at the Grand Army sixteen battalions of the 1st corps, six of the 2nd and 6th of the 3rd. You will have in Erfurt such a number of battalions.

Of the twenty-eight battalions remaining at the Grande Armée, form a corps under the orders of Marshal Ney, and put in it the number of generals of division and brigade that you deem fit.

You can instruct Marshal Davout to go to Magdeburg, to correspond with you there, and to supervise all the details of the organizations on this side.

You will draw from the various deposits of Glogau, Stettin and Küstrin, all that can be used to complete the 1st battalions. The 3rd, 4th and 6th battalions arrived in France will be able to leave again one month after the complete suit. It will be convenient to send to Erfurt a general of division and several brigade generals to command the twenty-eight battalions, under the superior orders of Prince Eckmühl.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtcnberg.[431]

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19492. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT FONTANELLI,
MINISTER OF WAR AND NAVY OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, MILAN.

Fontainebleau, January 23, 1813.

In the report you sent me, I do not see the number of drum parts in Palmanova. I do not think it is necessary to have a complete armament; it seems proper to have only a half-armament, so that, forty-eight hours after the place has been threatened, one can fire on all points.

Make a special report on Malghera; it is necessary that this fort has at least half a battery armament.

As for Ancona, he must be perfectly armed.

It would be necessary to have at Palruanova, but without warning, 600,000 rations of flour; there are 250,000 biscuits; would therefore remain 350,000 rations of flour or 4,000 quintals; have them placed there as a supply of seats, imperceptibly and without causing a sensation. Add 600,000 rations of rice, which equals one quintal per ounce to 400 quintals. It is necessary to have this supply fund. The meat, the wine, the brandy, the wood, the fodder, one would obtain them if necessary, necessity that I do not foresee.

Follow the same principle for Osoppo, Malghera and Ancona. For Osoppo it is enough to have one tenth of what Palmanova is asked for; for Malghera, also the tenth of what is required for Palmanova, and for Ancona the third.

Write to General Bertrand, who is to command the observation corps of Italy, for all the details relating to the Italian division. It is my intention that this division should set in motion on the 15th of February, so that it may be assembled in Brescia towards the first days of March.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19493. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA,
A CASSEL.

Fontainebleau, January 23, 1813.

Brother, I receive your letter of the 15th of January. I have a report on the balance sent to me by you, and according to which France owes Westphalia 9,062,000 francs, and Westphalia 7,216,000 francs to France. As soon as I get the report from[432]

Minister of the Administration of War, I will make you make up the difference.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

19494. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTHE,
MIMSTRE OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 24, 1813.

The Duke of Feltce, order General Lauriston to send the first regiment to Hamburg, that is to say, four battalions, as soon as possible, to Magdeburg. As soon as he arrives there, the demi-brigade belonging to the Lagrange division, which is at Magdeburg, will leave for Spandau. The second regiment formed at Hamburg will also proceed without delay to Magdeburg. A regiment is sufficient today in Hamburg, especially since the other troops arrive at Wesel and Osnabrück.

Write to Count Lauriston and the Duke of Padua that as soon as a regiment is formed at Wesel, they can direct him to Münster, where a division will be assembled.

Be careful to keep me informed of the arrival of these divisions, so that I can send them orders so that they do not lose a useful time.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war,

19495. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 24, 1813,

Order by order of the King of Spain to return to Valladolid.

Reiterate the order to General Reille to send most of his troops over Navarre and Biscay to subdue the North.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19496. - NOTE DIGITTED IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

Fontainebleau, January 24, 1813.

At the next council, the bureau of revenue office will provide a statement of the strength of the army for any month. We will preferably take the month of June, because in June I had not entered the campaign; I only entered it on June 24th.[433]

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I see so many variations in the stalls that are submitted to me, that I do not know what to do with it. The Minister of the Treasury presents to me 336,000 men where the Minister of War presents only 2136,000.

I ask that I be proved how, in June 1812, I had 413,000 men in the interior. For this purpose, I will be presented with a statement by military division, distinguishing between the staffs, the gendarmerie, the veterans, the coastguards, the artillery, the cavalry, the infantry, and the light infantry.

I am presented with a state of 66,000 men in Italy; we have meant 36,000, no doubt; in this account we have understood the Neapolitan army which was then passing, and which was not my pay; he is in the pay of the King of Naples.

In Spain there are 303,000 men; I do not think they're there. No doubt we understand in this state of the Neapolitans, Italians, troops of the Confederation, Spaniards who were not my pay. It will also be necessary to bring me a state by weapon of these 303,000 men as well as troops in Italy.

Finally, for the Grande Armée, there are 266,000 men. This account is the one that comes closest to the truth. There may be 30,000 German troops in my pay to cut off. It will be necessary for me to furnish the state, by weapon, of these 266,000 men.

The same development will be made for January 1812 and for January 1813. In the latter, the Grand Army can be dispensed with; I take care of it. The accounts will be provided to me by the offices of war and by those of the administration of war.

The pay for the year 1812 will be calculated from the states of January and June 1812 and January 1813.

As to the account of the pay of 1813, one could take as a basis the estimate made by Count de Cessac of 400,000 men in the interior; but it will be necessary to ascertain this number by counting by body, as I have indicated.

If these 400,000 men cost 30 francs per man per month, which seems to me enormous, it will be 12 millions for the month of January, and, adding 2 millions for the Great Year and 2 millions for the Army of Spain, a total of 16 million for the month of January.

To be added in February, for 50,000 men of conscription, at 12 francs, 600,000 francs more than in January; thus February will cost 16,600,000 francs.[434]

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In March there will be 90,000 conscription men who will have arrived (I do not count the hospitals), and March will cost 17,080,000 francs.

In April, 50,000 men will arrive from the conscription of 1814, and that month will cost 600,000 francs more than that of March, or 17,680,000 francs.

May, for the same reason, will cost 600,000 francs more than April, that is 18,280,000 francs.

June will receive 25,000 men and will cost 300,000 francs more than May, or 18,580,000 francs.

Thus the first six months would cost 104,220,000 francs. If the last six months had cost so much, the expense of the pay of the whole army would be 208,440,000 francs.

On that there would be reductions to be made.

According to the copy. Finance Archives.

19497. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 24, 1813.

My son, I received a letter from Count Daru, dated January 17th. I see that at Stettin there are 1,500,000 rations of flour, 500,000 rations of biscuit, 800,000 rations of rice and dried vegetables, 300,000 rations of salt, 300,000 rations of brandy, 300,000 rations of wine, 300,000 rations of beer, 300,000 rations of vinegar, 1 million rations of salted meat, 400,000 rations of hay, 400,000 rations of straw, 200,000 rations of oats or barley, 1 million rations of wood. This supply seems to me very satisfactory. Count Daru calculates on a garrison of 2,800 men and 800 horses: this base is false. Stettin can not have a lesser garrison of 4,000 men, nor a supply for less than a year; but 2 millions of rations of flour or biscuit, at 5,000 rations a day (for a garrison of 4,000 men it is necessary to count 5,000 rations), suffice for 400 days; 800,000 rations of rice and vegetables for 200 days; wine, brandy, beer and vinegar for 300 days; 1 million rations of salted meat for 200 days. Moreover, in case of need, the commander would take care to gather around 5 or 600 oxen, so we can be without worry about the supply of this place,

It is necessary that Küstrin be supplied for one year for 2,000 men, or 3,000 rations a day; Glogau for 4,000 garrison men, or 5,000 rations, also for a year, and Spandau[435]

for 3,000 garrison men, or .1,000 rations, also for a year.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19498. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN

Fontainebleau, January 24, 1813.

My Son, I have provided for the supply of Magdeburg; I ordered that this place be supplied for a year and for a garrison of 15,000 men and 2,000 horses.

I believe that the places of Stettin, Küstrin, Glogau and Spandau are sufficiently supplied; if they were not, no means should be neglected for them to be done without delay.

Independently of these provisions of the siege, I desire the intendant general to buy and store in Stettin 25,000 quintals of flour and 1 million bushels of oats, and to Kursin likewise 25,000 quintals of flour and 1 million bushels of oats, which will make 50,000 quintals of flour and 2 million bushels of oats. It will not be touched without my orders unless there is an extremely urgent case. These stores will form a supply for 100,000 men for fifty days. Each of these two supplies will have an adequate quantity of rice and vegetables.

Give these orders without delay, so that the Intendant-General passes the most advantageous markets possible, and that everything be stored before the 20th of February.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A, 1. The Duchess de Leuchtoubcrg.

19499. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GRAND ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau. January 24, 1813.

My son, the grenadiers and chasseurs on horseback, and the dragons of The Guard have 477 men on horseback; make sure that there are only the executives of a company of grenadiers, a company of dragons and a squadron of hunters. The two companies of grenadiers and dragoons will form a squadron commanded by a squadron commander; the fighter squadron will also have a squadron leader) and these two squadrons will be under the command of a major of the[436]

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Guard. You will send it all the summer of officers and non-commissioned officers. The Duke of Istria will also return to Paris. All officers and non-commissioned officers you return must leave.

I ordered the 932 men on horseback that General Walther brought back to Mainz to stop at Fulde, where the effects of necessary clothing were directed from Paris; they will be trained in four squadrons, and NCOs and superfluous officers will return to Paris.

I had informed you that everything belonging to the artillery, the artillery train, and the crew of my Guard was to return to France; order all this to stop at Fulde. The commander must address his itinerary to the Duke of Friuli, as well as the state of his conduct. You will order that all the officers and non-commissioned officers station themselves at La Fere, leaving to Fulde only the executives of as many companies as can be completed.

As for the Guard Infantry, you will keep the cadre of a regiment of chasseurs and a regiment of grenadiers, and the cadres of some battalions of the young Guard, according to the number of men you will have: the officers and superfluous NCOs will return to post in Paris. Everything will be under the command of General Roguet. I can already send from here for my Guard 1,500 horses; by the measures I have taken, it will be 8,000 horsepower at the end of March.

You are free to keep or not to keep the Duke of Treviso, as it suits you. If you do not keep it, send it to Fulde, where he will take command of everything in my Guard, Cavalry, Infantry, and Artillery. That's where my intention is to reform it.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19500. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GRAND ARMY, POSEN.

Fontainebleau. January 24, 1813.

My Son, I received your letter of January 17th. General Lauriston leaves today from Paris to go to Wesel and from there to Hamburg, where he will go to Magdeburg. I do not yet know the situation of affairs, the troops you have placed at Gdansk and Thorn. I have no information on the situation of the young Guard and the Guard, I ordered that the cadres of the young and the old Guard, who would be useless, should be sent back to France. I[437]

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do not hear about anything. The major-general, being ill, does not answer my questions in enough detail. I wish to have a status report of the depots of the army coming back.

I asked you to stop the 2nd battalions in Erfurt.

I ordered General Lauriston to direct half of the division which is in Hamburg, that is to say, six battalions, on Musdeburg, to raise the provisional demi-brigade which is there and which will go to Küslrin. By this means, the Lagrange division will be entirely on the Oder.

You will be able to form the Grenier division into two divisions, giving him two good division generals. She has now arrived in Berlin; thus, in the first days of February, if she is in good condition, she will be able to serve you.

If the deposits of the army are sufficient to garrison Glogau, Küslrin, and Stettin, where there are besides two battalions of the Guard, you will be able to unite all the Lagrange division, which is strong and has its artillery, with the two divisions of General Grenier, which will make you three divisions or 30,000 men, independently of the Poles and my Guard. This will put you in a position to keep Posen, which is very important. The King of Prussia must reform his contingent and provide you with cavalry.

I have summoned the King of Saxony to assemble all his troops, cavalry, infantry, and artillery at Glogau, which will support your right.

Finally, I asked you to bring the Tuscan and Piedmontese battalions from Warsaw to strengthen my Guard.

By thus forming a corps of the two divisions of General Grenier and Lagrange, which you will put under the Duke of Elchingen, you will be in a position to preserve Posen. You are master of assembling all the stores which you think are necessary, and of using the funds for this purpose.

Considering the present situation of affairs, I can not think that the Russians are advancing on Posen, except with a few battalions of light infantry, a few thousand Cossacks, and a few pieces of cannon. It is impossible that, having to conceal Danzig, Thorn, and Graudenz, having on their left flank Prince Schwarzenberg and General Reynier, and further on the army which the Emperor of Austria gathers in Gallicia in the middle of winter tired as they are, and knowing the troops that are coming to us, they are trying a serious operation; but you must finally resist them and not go away with panic terror. You must have, with the artillery of[438]

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11th corps, a hundred pieces of cannon in the hands. The Prussian contingent is gathering on your left, between you and Stettin; the Saxons meet at Glogau on your right; you are in Posen in a good position, if you can gather a little cavalry there. 2,000 horses were already assembled in Warsaw; I asked you to bring them back. It will be easy for you to assemble 3 to 4,000 men of light cavalry, independently of the Prussians and Saxons. The advantage of holding Posen is sensible: the enemy can not approach the Oder, and you cover both Berlin and Dresden.

When you receive this letter, the 1st Division of the Rhine Observation Corps will have already entered Frankfurt.

In short, you will put two good generals of division at the Grenier division; you will change Major General Lagrange, who is a good man, but who has one arm less and is not used to handling infantry; you will join these three divisions with 3 to 4,000 men of light cavalry on Posen. Write in Saxony so that all available troops come to cover the kingdom by maneuvering on Glogau. I believe that the King of Saxony can easily muster 1,800 cavalrymen and 4 to 5,000 infantrymen. Write in Prussia to have the Prussian contingent gather and send you a thousand horses to Posen. This contingent will support your left. You can call the Grenier and Lagrange divisions, under the orders of the Duke of Elchingen, a vanguard corps, or retain the old name of the 11th corps. All this must be done by February 15th.

Write to Prince Schwarzenberg and General Reynier to keep Warsaw for as long as possible. If they were forced to evacuate, Prince Schwarzenberg and General Reynier, as well as Prince Poniatowski, should march on Kalisz,

The garrisons of Stettin, Küstrin, Glogau and Spandau forts will need to be weaker while you cover them.

In the course of February, the twenty-eight 2nd battalions will meet at Erfurt (as they will be composed of young men, they will be good to place in the strongholds), so that each regiment of the army will have two battalions.

At the end of February, the observation corps of the Elbe will be partly on Magdeburg, and that of the Rhine at Frankfurt.

You can name to all vacant places of captains, lieutenants and second lieutenants, but only to vacant positions and without exceeding the new organization.[439]

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Send a good cavalry general to Posen, assemble all the light cavalry you can; bring it together in squads.

The Minister of War will send you the decree I have taken to appoint you my lieutenant-general. You can have it put to the order of the army.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberq.

19501. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Fontainebleau. January 24, 1813.

My brother, it is necessary that the place of Magdeburg be supplied for a garrison of 15,000 men and 2,000 horses for a year. Give orders so that this supply is made without any delay, so that it is complete on March 1st.

This supply will be divided into two parts: one for six months will be in your account and in the hands of your agents and storekeepers; the other, also for six months, will be in the account of France and in the hands of French agents and storekeepers. I preferred that you take care of all the supply, because, since there will be no competition, it can be done cheaper, and because you can use the route of requisitions, which will give you a great advantage. Send me a report of this supply, where a column will contain what is in Westphalia and another which is in the account of France. I order that funds be made on the spot to pay for everything you have provided. You will receive a decree that I have taken on these bases.

It will be necessary for the commissioners of war to ensure that only good quality goods are received. The supply must be in flour and not in wheat, because of the difficulty of grinding. Let me know if you prefer to be paid with the obligations that I have of you or in cash. The food must be good and cheap; they will be regularly paid as the payments are made. Apart from the oats necessary for the 2,000 horses for a year, I wish to have at Magdeburg an oat reserve. Pass, therefore, steps to get me 2 million bushels[440]

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oats. There must be, on March 1st, 60,000 quintals of flour, 30,000 for your account, and 30,000 quintals of mine. As for the meat, there must be, for each supply for six months, a quantity of salted meat sufficient for two months, and for the other four months, a supply of live meat.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

19502.- TO CAROLINE NAPOLEON, QUEEN OF TWO SICILIES, IN NAPLES.

Fontainebleau, January 24, 1813

"The minute of this letter no longer exists in the archives: it was withdrawn on the 10th of July, 1815, by the Director General of the King's House, with other minutes and false documents which had been written in the cabinet of M. de Blacas. (*Note from the Archives of the Empire (1).)*

19503. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 25, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, order the Viceroy commanding the army to send all the cadres back to France, and to organize, under the orders of the Duke of Elchingen and under the vanguard, a he will compose of the troops of General Grenier, which he will divide into two divisions, and of the Lagrange division. This will put under

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1 It is necessary to recall here:

1st That Lord Castlereagh had made use in 1815, in a speech to the British Parliament, of documents among which were three letters from the Emperor Napoleon I. to the King and Queen of Naples, dated February 17th, March 7th and 10th, 1814 ;

2nd But that, in a *Note* inserted in the *Moniteur* of May 14, 1815, the government of Napoleon I had declared false the three letters indicated above whose dates had been changed; the letter of January 24, 1818, was dated February 17, 1814; that of January 26, 1813, the date of March 10, 1814; a letter of August 8, 1811, had become a letter of March 7, 1814.

It was added in the Note that these three letters had been made in the cabinet of M. de Blacas, and that the Secretariat of State kept the original minutes at the disposal of those who wished to see the true texts and compare them to falsifications.

It is these true texts, these original minutes which, deposited in the archives of the Secretariat of State, *were withdrawn, on July 10, 1815, by the Director General of the House of the King, with other minutes and false parts written in the cabinet of M. de Blacas.*[441]

the orders of this marshal thirty-six battalions who have not yet given. A Polish division and another division which it will compose of allied troops will form another corps which it will be able to put under the orders of Marshal Gouvion Saint-Cyr.

Give him orders to place the battalions of the Grand Army that he will keep in the Oder and Spandau, where they will be joined by the twenty-eight battalions that will be organized in Erfurt, and then by the fifty -Six other battalions which will reorganize in France with the conscription of 100,000 men, so that before the month of May each of these regiments will be restored to four battalions. By adopting this step, the vice-ruler must place the 1st battalions of the 1st corps at Stettin, those of the 2nd and 3rd corps at Küstrin and Spandau, those of the 4th corps at Glogau, so that these regiments always remain together, that the 2nd battalions can join them, and insensibly the last ones. It will also have the advantage that all the sick, the wounded and the lost will know where their corps is and how far they should go. We will also know how to direct the companies of the 5th battalions which come from the garrisons of the ships.

By this means, these troops, who are so tired, will rest, have fixed depots, and at the same time serve as garrisons; and the vanguard, composed of the entire 11th corps, supported by the Prussian corps, by that of the auxiliaries commanded by Marshal Saint-Cyr, and by a Saxon corps which will cover Glogau, will be able to maintain itself at Posen.

This is a general instruction that the Viceroy will modify according to the circumstances.

Then it will suffice to form of all the battalions of the 1st corps, preserved at Küstrin, a division which will be called the division of the 1st corps. A divisional general and two brigade generals are needed to command this division. It is necessary to take them among those who best understand the administration and the organization of the troops, so that they take active care of the clothing and the restoration of these battalions. An engineer officer, an artillery officer, surgeons and the administrators necessary for this division will also be left. The same orders will be given for the battalions of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th corps, but it will be enough for a brigadier general to command each of these divisions. By this means all the rest of the generals, officers, administrators, etc., of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd corps, which also includes the 9th since its suppression, will become available, and all these individuals will have to go to Magdeburg. As soon as[442]

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you will have received the status, they will be employed in the observation corps, and the army will thus be recomposed on a new basis.

Durutte's division remained with General Reynier; but give orders to the Viceroy to take her back for the Duke of Elchingen's corps, if she ever drew near. However, he must leave it to General Reynier's corps, as long as this general is charged with covering Warsaw.

The divisions Loison, Heudelet, Grandjean are, I believe, all three at Danzig; however, I am not sure. Give the order that the battalions which compose the 3rd, the 105th, the 29th and the 113th are reduced; that all the men available in one or two battalions, by regiment, should be assembled, according to what remains, and that all the other cadres should be sent back to Erfurt. The 29th Regiment, with four battalions, could send back the cadre of two complete battalions.

If the garrison of Danzig is thus composed of the Grandjean division, the Loison division, the Heudelet division, and the Neapolitan division, with artillery and engineers, it must consist of 25,000 men. It seems to me proper that you should send an intelligent officer, who goes with the proper precautions to Gdansk, and reports news and information on the state of affairs. The governor will take care to write in numerals all his letters.

By these dispositions all the generals of artillery of the army become available; they are all today in the places of the Oder; you may, therefore, designate those who will be employed in the observation corps of the Elbe, the two corps of observation of the Rhine, or that of Italy. Thus, without disturbing Colonel Paris, who is in Holland, you can designate one of the brigade generals of the engineers of the Grand Army for General Lauriston's corps.

With this new organization, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th corps would no longer exist. There would be only four divisions left, which would become the garrison of the strongholds, until the return of the twenty-eight battalions of Erfurt and the fifty-six battalions which, in March, will emerge from France, recompose these corps.

The Grande Armée would consist of the four divisions of Danzig, in the 11th corps, which would take the title of avant-garde and be composed of three divisions, in the auxiliary corps commanded by Marshal Saint-Cyr, and who would continue to bear the title of 6th corps, and finally in what would remain imperial, Italian and Neapolitan guards,[443]

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which would form the guard of the viceroy. The cadres of the Guard, infantry, artillery, and cavalry, which would not be necessary, would reorganize at Fulde.

In a fortnight you will know the Viceroy's answer to these provisions. He will announce the strength of the battalions of the Grand Army which will form the four divisions of the garrison of Danzig, and the objections he sees to the execution of this order.

Then one will be able to know the time when the twenty-eight battalions of Erfurt, as well as the reorganized battalions in France, will be able to return; which will give precise ideas about the time of the reorganization of the four corps of the Grande Armée.

Give me a report of all the companies that were on board the ships, and the place where they are, so that I give orders for them to continue their march and be incorporated in the 1st battalions of the Grande Armée. Executives will have to return to France.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19504. - TO GENERAL LACUEE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 25, 1813.

Count de Cessac, I send you a report which the Minister of War has received from General Bourcier. I wish that after you have made a copy of it you return it to the artillery office. You will see in this state that the draft horses go up to 7,800, General Bourcier announces that he will make a new market of 3,000 horses, bringing the total to more than 10,000 draft horses, of which 6,500 for the artillery and 3,500 for military crews. Everything leads me to think that the supply of Warsaw will experience decreases, and that we will hardly have the 3,500 horses.

You will see by the same state that General Bourcier made deals for 5,200 horses of heavy cavalry, 2,400 of dragoons and 14,000 of light cavalry; in all for 21,600 available horses, namely: 6,000 in Warsaw, 2,700 in Posen, 3,000 in Glogau, 3,500 in Berlin, 3,200 in Hamburg and 3,200 in Hanover. I am justified in thinking that the Warsaw market will not be fully realized, but a first supply of 2,000 horses must have already taken place, namely 600 of dragons and 1,400 of light cavalry; I doubt[444]

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that the rest succeed; so I predict that there must be a decrease of 4,000 horses in this market. As for all the others, as many are not deliverable until June 15, it will be a duplication to go up the army cavalry, which by then would be dismounted.

Write to General Bourcier to ask him: (1) the situation, regiment by regiment, of what is in his depots, (2) a report on the artillery; (3) what part of these horses was received on the 15th of January.

I am also sending you a letter from Count Daru regarding the military crews. I guess this situation will increase. It seems that the 2nd, 6th, 9th, 17th and 19th Battalions are on the move. As soon as you are sure that the cadres of these five battalions have passed the Oder, you can count them in the formation of the five battalions that you will organize. I guess since, you've given the order that all the 9th will go to Verona. I also ordered that the two battalions of the Guard should set out for Fulde, and that the two Italian battalions should set out for Nuremberg, where the Viceroy would have them assembled in one battalion and re-enforce men, horses and wagons from Italy. Order that the 7th, who was attached to the Guard, also return to France there will therefore remain in the army ten battalions.

The 16th and the 14th are in Warsaw: of these two it is necessary to make one, which one will complete under the title of the 14th. I think it's a battalion at the comtoise. The required 600 wagons and harnesses could be made in Warsaw, which will employ the horses of Warsaw.

The 10th is in Berlin: he could easily be recruited there. Allow men to be put there who have lost their fingers.

We can reduce the 20th and the 21st to a single under the title of the 20th; likewise the 22nd and 23rd could be reduced to one under the title of the 23rd.

Thus, of fifteen battalions, six will pass in France, the 2nd, 6th, 7th, 9th, 17th and 19th; two, the 14th and 16th, will form in one at Warsaw, under the title of the 14th; two, the 12th and 15th, will be formed in one at Glogau, under the title of 12th; one, the 10th, will be formed in Berlin; the 20th and 21st will form in one at Danzig, under the title of the 20th; two, the 22nd and 23rd, will be formed in one at Berlin, under the title of the 23rd; total, fifteen battalions.

Each of these last five battalions, instead of being of six companies, will be only four, all organized in the comtoise,[445]

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that is to say, 100 wagons per company, which will make 400 wagons per battalion, and for the five battalions reorganized in the army, 2,000 wagons. As for horses, this will require 800 per battalion and 4,000 for the five battalions. Finally, for men, it will take 500 men per battalion, and 2,500 for the five battalions. The new 14th, which meets in Warsaw, will be completed with Poles. The 20th, which is reorganized in Danzig, will be completed by all the men of the country. It remains to be filled with the recruitment of the 12th, 10th and 22nd, which form first at Glogau and the two others at Berlin. It will be provided by incorporating all the French who have had their hands frozen, and finally by conscripts to be sent. Thus the battalion of Danzig must already have its wings in Danzig; men must find their clothing there, and horses their harness. It will not be difficult to train the two battalions in Berlin; one could send one to Hanover. Glogau's is good. That of Warsaw, which is recruited from Poles, will be promptly in condition. It would take 4,000 horses for these five battalions; but, as that of Danzig will need his horses only when one will go forward and the place will be unblocked, it now takes only 3,200. Make the budget according to this basis. The wings of the Comtoise will be light and, in a word, like those we had in the last campaign.

Thus the crews of the Grand Army will consist of six battalions formed in France, two battalions of the Guard and five battalions remaining in the army, which is thirteen. The two Italian battalions directed on Nuremberg will have to form only one, which makes fourteen battalions of military crews. I want you to let me know where the five battalions in France are organized, what kind of wagons are built for them and when these wagons will be made. Part of these battalions must harness wagons to the Comtoise*.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19505. - TO COUNT BIGOT OF PREAMENEU, MINISTER OF CULTES, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 25, 1813.

Count Bigot de Préameneu, it is necessary that you send a courier to General Miollis to make him known the arrangement which has just been made with the Pope and, without sending him the[446]

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*of French-Comte

treated, give him the analysis. He will not print it, but he will use it in his conversations. You will tell him that the Pope will remain at Avignon, where he will exercise his pontificate as in the past; that the current riding is maintained, except that the suburbicaries, etc., be restored.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Baroness de Nougarède de Fayet

19506. - TO THE COUNT OF MONTESQUIOU-FEZENSAC, GREAT CHAMBELLAN, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 25, 1813.

Monsieur le Grand Chamberlain, give a year's reward to all the servants of the Pope. You will take this expense out of the funds of the Presents of your budget.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Archives of the Empire.

19507. – TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGHAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 25, 1813

You must hold to say that I will confirm appointments made by the King of Naples only those that will fill vacant places.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19508. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 25, 1813.

My Son, the King of Naples has ordered the cadres of the battalions of Velites of his guard to go to Glogau. I do not really understand what we did with men who were in these settings, since they did not give and they never passed Vilna. It would not be proper to let those executives who have suffered through Italy; that would be a bad effect. It is preferable that they stay in Glogau and receive the conscripts who will be sent to them to recruit them.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchteuberg.[447]

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19509. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 25, 1813.

My Son, I send you a copy of a letter which I write to the Minister of War; by this means you will know my intentions two days earlier. Give me an answer right away.

I am especially eager to know: 1. What will be the strength and number of the companies of the 5th battalions, from the garrisons of ships, which must be in Berlin, and which I ordered the incorporation in the 1st battalions of the 1st 2nd, 3rd and 4th corps; Secondly, what is the strength of the garrison of Danzig; have as many cadet as you can; 3rd Let me know in detail the number of officers and non-commissioned officers that each regiment returns to France, the place where they are, their itinerary, the number of generals, staff officers, officers of the engineers and artillery, as well as the administrative officers that you send back to Magdeburg: 4th let me know the strength of the 11th corps, that of the Guard and that of the corps of Marshal Saint-Cyr, infantry, cavalry and artillery. I suppose this active part alone must give you 45 to 50,000 fighters promptly. 2 to 3,000 horses were supplied in Warsaw; it must have been supplied at Glogau, Berlin; it had been furnished at Elbing. You must soon gather a few thousand horses.

If to this corps we join what the King of Saxony will gather in front of Glognu and the Prussians between Stettin and Küstrin, you can no longer be dispossessed of Posen and will be able to hold your communications with Warsaw.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. 1. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19510. - TO M. MELZI, DUKE OF LODI,
GRANDE CHANCELLOR OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Fontainebleau, January 25, 1813.

The Duke of Lodi, I have just signed a concordat with the Pope. I hasten to send you a copy for you alone, my intention being that it will not be published, but that you know about it, so that you can talk about it and stop the false versions, if it is had published in the kingdom. The Pope will settle in Avignon.[448]

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As the Minister of religion is dead, I would like you to introduce a subject to replace him. I also wish you to make known to me your views on the appointments to be made to the vacant bishoprics, especially that of Milan. I would like for this last siege a bishop of manners without reproach, of a pure doctrine, and of which one has been content in all the circumstances. Let me know also if there were in the kingdom any prelate who would have deserved well in the court of Rome, whose relationship we had been bound to be happy in the last circumstances, and who was finally in the case of being made cardinal . In general, give me a note on the subjects of the kingdom that could be proposed for cardinal.

If, when the news of these arrangements is known in Italy, some newspaper articles were necessary to direct the opinion, you would write them yourself; and in that case you would make known the truth without using the same words, and so that there is nothing official about it. These items may be needed, especially for Ancona and Bologna. You alone must keep this copy of the agreement, and, under any pretext whatsoever, you must not give it to anyone.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19511. - TO FRANCOIS I, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, IN VIENNA

Fontainebleau. January 25, 1813.

Brother and dear Father-in-law, having had occasion to see the Pope at Fontainebleau, and having conferred several times with His Holiness, we have settled on the affairs of the Church. The Pope seems to want to settle in Avignon. I send to your Majesty the concordat which I have just signed with him; I would like this room not to become public.

The great knowledge that Count Otto has of affairs in England and America makes me wish for his presence in Paris. I would like to replace him with the Comte de Narbonne, who has all my confidence and whose forms may be agreeable to Vienna. I beg your majesty to let me know if she agrees.

The king of Naples being ill desired to leave the army, and the viceroy replaced him in command. My troops are moving. Everything is in arms in France, and your Majesty can be certain that, with the help of God, as soon as the good season arrives, I will drive out vile Russians to where they come from. All my villages[449]

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and the cantons having offered me a voluntary levy of horses, that alone makes me 40,000 horses, the horsemen having already made war and the horses having more than six years, independently of 20,000 horses which the requisitions and the ordinary returns give me and 20,000 from the markets in the North, some of which have already been delivered to Warsaw, Posen, Glogau, Stettin, Berlin and Hanover.

I received a letter from the King of Denmark which is as frank as it is positive; he informs me of his firm intention to remain in the alliance and to be deaf to the attempts of Russia, Sweden, and England.

I had spoken of Sweden to Your Majesty in Dresden; but the day after my departure Signeul arrived, and brought the unexpected request that I should let Sweden take Norway. I was, of course, indignant at a proposition so contrary to my honor, since my alliance with Denmark was by an unknown circumstance. I did not even deign to give an answer.

Your Majesty has been informed of the affair of General York. The King of Prussia shows me the best sentiments, but I send to Count Otto a translation of the last English papers, which shows what the English meditate. They want to treat the King of Prussia as Ferdinand VII, and establish a revolutionary committee that will speak for him.

I await tomorrow or the day after news from Vienna, which will inform me whether your Majesty has been satisfied with the letter I have written to him, and what steps he has taken in consequence.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the Emperor of Austria.

CONCORDAT OF 1813.

Palace of Fontainebleau, January 25, 1813.

His Majesty the Emperor and King and His Holiness, wishing to put an end to the differences which have arisen between them and to provide for the difficulties which have arisen in several Church cases, have agreed upon the following Articles as the basis of a definitive arrangement .

ARTICLE 1. His Holiness will exercise the pontificate in France and the Kingdom of Italy in the same manner and with the same forms as his predecessors.

ART. 2. Ambassadors, Ministers, Charge d'Affaires of the Powers[450]

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near the Holy Father, and the ambassadors, ministers, or charge d'affaires which the Pope might have near the foreign powers, will enjoy the immunities and privileges enjoyed by the members of the diplomatic corps.

ART. 3. The domains which the Holy Father possessed, and which are not alienated, shall be exempt from all kinds of taxes; they will be administered by his agents or charge d'affaires. Those who are alienated will be replaced until the competition of 2 million francs of income.

ART. 4. In the six months following the notification of use of the appointment by the Emperor to the archbishoprics and bishoprics of the Empire and the Kingdom of Italy, the Pope will give the canonical institution, in accordance with the concordats and in virtue of the present induced. The preliminary information will be made by the metropolitan. The six months expired without the Pope granting the institution, the metropolitan, and in his absence, or if it is the metropolitan, the oldest bishop of the province, proceed to the institution of the named bishop, so that a seat is never vacant for more than a year.

ART. 5. The Pope will appoint, either in France or in the kingdom of Italy, to ten bishoprics, which will be subsequently designated in concert.

ART. 6. The six suburban bishoprics will be restored. They will be at the Pope's appointment. Existing properties will be returned, and measures will be taken for the goods sold. On the death of the bishops of Anagni and Rieti, their dioceses will be united to the said six bishoprics, in accordance with the concert which will take place between His Majesty and the Holy Father.

ART. 7. With regard to the bishops of the Roman states absent from their dioceses by circumstances, the Holy Father may exercise in their favor his right to give bishoprics in partibus, They will be made a pension equal to the income they enjoyed, and they may be placed in vacant seats, either of the Empire or of the Kingdom of Italy.

ART. 8. His Majesty and His Holiness will consult in due course on the reduction to be made, if any, to the bishoprics of Tuscany and the country of Genoa, as well as for the bishoprics to be established in Holland and in the Hanseatic Departments. .

ART. 9. Propaganda, the Penitentiary, the Archives will be established in the place of the Holy Father's stay.

ART. 10. His Majesty gives his thanks to cardinals, bishops, priests, laymen, who have suffered his disgrace as a result of current events[451]

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ART. 11. The Holy Father proceeds to the above dispositions in consideration of the present state of the Church, and in the confidence which His Majesty has inspired in it, that it will grant its powerful protection to the numerous needs of the religion in the times we live.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of February 14, 1813.

19512. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau. January 26, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Feltre, I approve the state no. 1. The 1st Division of the Elbe Observation Corps will meet at Magdeburg as soon as possible; but it will be necessary for General Lauriston to keep a regiment at Hamburg to maintain the police of the country. The 2nd division will meet in Münster, from where it will be ready to leave before February 10th. It is necessary that General Puthod be headquartered in Münster on 1 February. The 3rd division will meet on the 10th of February at Osnabruck; it is necessary that General Lagrange should have his headquarters established on the 5th of February. Finally, the 4th Division will meet in Frankfurt on February 15th. It is necessary that General Rochambeau be on February 1st, personally and with his headquarters, in Frankfurt. As soon as he arrives, General Souham will take his headquarters to Hanau, where he will gather his whole division.

The 1st Division of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps (State No. 2) will be composed as you propose, it will meet in Frankfurt before February 7th, and in Hanau before the 16th. The 2nd Division will meet in Frankfurt before On the 1st of March, when this division arrived at Frankfurt, that of General Rochambeau will be carried on Fulde, where it will be at the disposal of General Lauriston, and I do not approve of the formation of the 3rd and 4th divisions of the 1st observation corps of the Rhine The 3rd division of this corps will be composed of the 145th, the 130th and the 138th, it will meet at Mainz in the early days of March, and will be reunited on the 5th at Frankfurt. The 4th division will be composed of the 139th, the 140th, of the 113th and 26th Provisional, it will be held in Mainz around March 15th, and in Frankfurt from the 15th to the 20th.

The 1st division of the 2nd observation corps of the Rhine will be composed of the current 3rd division of the 1st corps, which will be reunited at Mainz on March 20th. The 2nd division of the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps will be composed of the 141st, 142nd and 144th; it will be reunited in Mainz on April 1st. The 3rd division of the 2nd corps will be composed of the 4th of the 1st current corps, with the exception of the 34th light infantry regiment which comes from the Pyrenees.[452]

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The provisional 27th and 28th will be joined to this 3rd division, which will be reunited in Mainz on the 10th of April. Finally, the 4th division of the 2nd observation corps of the Rhine will be composed of the twenty battalions of the regiments of the marine. I want you to let me know when it will be able to meet in Mainz.

You will find attached the table of the formation of these corps. You will see there the time when each division must meet in Mainz. You will settle the departure there, so that the corps leave the deposits as late as possible, because, later on, they will leave, the more the soldiers will be well equipped and in state, and that besides they will walk in a season more soft. Calculate their departure on the fixed point I determined for their arrival at Mainz. I want you to order all movements accordingly.

As for the generals, we must take those who are at the Grand Army, except for the observation corps of the Elbe; I have provided for it by other generals. By this means, the observation corps of the Elbe can be assembled entirely at Magdeburg, if it is necessary, in the first days of March. The 1st Rhine Observation Corps will be able to push two of its divisions to Magdeburg, if necessary.

The Italian observation corps will meet in Verona on 1 March. Consequently, order the movements so that each regiment leaves as late as possible, and arrives at Bassano, Verona, Vicenza and Mantua that on March 1st, except the 137th and the 156th, that it is good to gather in Mantua the as soon as possible to train them.

General rule; it must be recommended that no detachment leave unless it is well armed and that each soldier has two pairs of shoes in the haven and one on the feet. No soldier must leave unless he has been armed for at least a month and has already handled his rifle a little.

I wish that, when you send me your work, you join the movement of the corps of the reserve.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. In the state of formation of the 1st Rhine Corps you only wear the 22nd for two battalions; he should provide four. I removed the 34th light, which will be placed at the Bayonne camp.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.[453]

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19513. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 26, 1813,

Monsieur le Comte de Cessac, the army of Cutalogne is costing me too much. It is ridiculous for me to ask for wine, brandy and oats for Barcelona; it must be obtained in the country. It is the same for salted meat. I only want to supply wheat; but, instead of 25,000 quintals, I want to supply only 15,000 quintals. We must stop supplying the army of Catalonia with wood, wine, and brandy; it must be provided on the spot. Fodder distributions must also be stopped and the supply of wheat reduced; the army must be able to obtain some of it in its cantonments. All of this leads to squandering and costs immense money. Inform General Decaen that in the present circumstances such expenses can not be made.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19514, - TO GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE OF ROVIGO,
MINISTIRE OF THE GENERAL POLICE, PARIS.

Fontainebleau. January 26, 1813.

I see from the extract from the contribution of the Commissioner of Bremen that police talk rather than act. If, instead of making pictures that do not have common sense, he had arrested five of the malevolent ones who showed disobedience, we would have taken an example from them. But the police take a wrong direction; he chats, he makes pictures, and does not arrive at any measure.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19515. - TO GENERAL LEFEBVRE-DESNOETTES,
COLONEL CHASSERES HORSE OF THE IMPERIAL GUARD, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 26, 1813.

I can only express my dissatisfaction with the manner in which horses are received; there is only a cry of indignation in all Paris. Horses worth 1,000 francs were refused. It is supposed that there are intrigues on the part of the horse dealers of the Guard, who would like to supply everything. Immediately take the necessary measures so that all horses worth more than 300 francs and which can serve are received. There is only the defect[454]

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age or size that may be grounds for refusal. If they are not good for the Guard, they will be sent to the regiments. As you are responsible for the operation, you are responsible; stay in the Champ de Mars day and night, and do this yourself; it is not in a moment like this, where we need horses so much, that we must relate to others.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19516. - TO BARON DE LA BOUILLERIE,
TREASURER GENERAL OF THE CROWN AND EXTRAORDINARY DOMANE, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 26, 1813.

Give 50,000 francs, on the chapter of the rewards of 1813, to Major General Souham.

According to the minute. Archive of the Empire.

19517. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 26, 1813.

My Son, I am getting your letter of the 20th. I have authorized you to bring in the Major General. In general, you have this authorization for all those who will need it or that you deem fit to return.

I have nothing to add to my previous dispatches: all your efforts must tend to keep Warsaw.

The reports which reach me from all sides confirm that, on the Berezina, the Russians thought themselves lost; that, without the unfortunate affair of Partouneaux, Victor would have beaten them as we had beaten the admiral, and that their army would have been crushed; that the corp of Kutuzof is utterly destroyed; that they did not think of coming to Vilna and stayed in Minsk, when the forced marches and the measures taken in Vilna encouraged them to go there. Since then, the success of General York's betrayal has pushed them beyond the Niemen. At present will they try to reach Warsaw? That's the question.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. I have no doubt that you keep Posen.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.[455]

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19518. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 26, 1813.

My Son, the Minister of War Administration, realizes that he has ordered the formation of five reserve stores, one in Stettin, and the others in Küstrin, Glogau, Spandau and Magdeburg.

I have already provided for the supply of Magdeburg by ordering, as I told you the day before yesterday, that this place should be supplied for a year and for a garrison of 15,000 men and 2,000 horses. When this supply is made, I will see if I have to make another one.

On the 24th, I also sent you to supply Küstrin and Spandau with a supply of 25,000 quintals of flour and one million bushels of oats. If my letter carried Stettin instead of Spandau, it was by mistake. You will therefore order the intendant general to look at the Count de Cessac's letter as a null and void, and to deal without delay with the provisions which I have prescribed on the 24th. I shall thus have three magazines: one at Magdeburg, one at Küstrin and one in Spandau, which assures me all that is necessary.

Take care that there are 500,000 biscuit rations in Stettin and as much in Küstrin. You will take the most economical measures to provide these supplies, and you will ensure that they are complete before the end of February. Give orders that, as soon as possible, the supplies of the strongholds be completed at my expense, without quarreling with Prussia.

Let me know the number of portable mills remaining in the army; you must have received some lately.

Take care to order that the corn of the provisions of all the places be converted into flour, not only to be ready in the event of siege, but so that at the beginning of the campaign we can find flour ready made, to go forward.

From the moment that you have assembled 6,000 cavalrymen, 40,000 men of infantry, with one hundred and fifty pieces of cannon, it will be necessary to organize the stores of Posen. At the beginning of the season, I want to have 2 million bushels of oats, 50,000 quintals of flour, and dry vegetables and meat in proportion. This must be promptly met by paying in cash.[456]

The information I have received leads me to think that the enemy hoped to surprise Danzig.

From all the data I have, I do not doubt that you are staying in Posen.

I think you've given orders to put Thorn in order. Write to Danzig for grinding, so that at the beginning of the campaign we have 100,000 quintals of flour. Also write to Thorn for grinding as soon as possible so that we can find 100,000 quintals of flour as well. Give the same orders to Modlin, so that we find flour on our arrival in large quantities.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19519. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau, January 26, 1813.

My son, it seems that General Grenier's division has been spread over too great a country, so that the troops are ill. It is more suitable for the steward to take measures to feed them, if Prussia does not feed them,

I always attach great importance to bringing together the Lagrange division, which is rested, in Posen.

It does not seem to me possible for the Russians to cross the Vistula, if not Cossacks.

I await information on the garrisons of Danzig and Thorn, and on the organization of the 11th corps at Posen, under the orders of Marshal Ney. You should, however, soon have 5 or 6,000 men of cavalry to put you entirely at your disposal. sheltered from Cossack incursions. I have, I believe, written for the formation of some shops in Küstriu and Spandau.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19520, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau, January 27, 1813.

I am responding to your letter of the 26th (artillery office).

There are forty-eight companies of artillery on foot at the Grande Armée, which have not made the campaign, I have[457]

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Great Army and twenty-eight for places. There are fifty-two that will be reorganized in Magdeburg. The Grande Armée does not need the eight companies you propose to give it. The six of the 11th corps will also be taken from the twenty that I have intended for the army; so there is no need to give him any. Ten companies are required for the observation corps of the Elbe, twelve for the 1st corps I observe the Rhine, and twelve for the second; which is thirty-four companies. By taking these thirty-four companies out of the fifty-two companies assembled at Magdeburg, only eighteen will remain. These eighteen companies will practice in Magdeburg and remain there until further notice, and then be employed according to the circumstances. I approve, then, that the fifty-two companies which are assembled at Magdeburg, or the twenty-eight who are in the forts, supply the observation corps of the Elbe and the Rhine.

I wish the Italian observation corps to bring only four companies and consequently leave four in Italy, bringing only what is necessary to escort its fleet and its train. Instead of thirty-four companies, it would then be thirty-eight; and instead of eighteen, only fourteen companies would remain in Magdeburg.

In general, the final ideas on the formation of artillery are not yet clear. I do not need, I think, twenty companies for the Great Year. Our real needs are, as I see things in this moment, as follows:

1. The 1st corps, formed in three divisions, with a corps of cavalry, making the vanguard of the army under the Duke of Elchingen. This corps is composed of the Lagrange division and two divisions formed from that of General Grenier. This body of fresh troops is what is more available to the Grande Armée; he will need one hundred pieces of cannon, as you have it for the 11th corps.

2. A cavalry corps of 6,000 men, the first organized, which will require four or five horse batteries.

3. I ordered the formation of a division of the 1st corps at Stettin, a division of the 2nd corps at Küstrin, a division of the 3rd corps at Spandau, and a division of the 4th at Glogau. You will carry two batteries for each of these divisions; that will be eight batteries, Wear two more for the 1st corps, which will soon have a second division; that will make ten batteries, or eighty pieces of cannon. The 1st Corps Division, formed at Stettin, will be stationed there and will be[458]

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sixteen 1st battalions organized in the army. When the sixteen battalions which are organized at Erfurt have rejoined their regiments, it will be thirty-two battalions, which may form two divisions. It will then be necessary, as I said, four batteries for this corps.

4. The six regiments of the 2nd corps will assemble their six 1st battalions at Küstrin, which will form a small division; he will need two batteries. The six 2nd, battalions of Erfurt having joined, that division will have twelve battalions; and, supposing that the Swiss can form two, that will make fourteen battalions.

5. The 3rd corps will assemble if battalions at Spandau: six will arrive from Erfurt; which, with a battalion of Illyrians, will make thirteen battalions. This will form a division, which needs two batteries.

6. The 4th corps will be organized in eight French battalions (including the 18th and the 8th light) and two Italian battalions; which makes ten battalions. He will receive from Italy ten battalions, which will make twenty battalions, of which two divisions may be formed; but nowadays it is necessary to count only one.

Thus, at the end of March, without counting the garrisons of Danzig and Thorn, the army will be organized in the following manner: the corps d'avant- garde, composed of the 11th corps, having three divisions; the 1st corps at Stettin, two divisions; and the 2nd at Kustrin, 3rd at Spandau, 4th at Glogau, a division at each.

The five divisions of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th corps will have ten artillery batteries on foot, or eighty pieces of cannon.

Assuming that these five divisions are formed into one body, two reserve batteries and two horse-drawn artillery batteries, or twelve pieces of horse artillery and sixteen pieces of artillery on foot, will be needed; which makes twenty-eight pieces, and carries the artillery of this corps to one hundred and eight pieces.

No doubt that in the course of March or April, the 3rd and 4th battalions which are organized in France, by means of the rest of the conscription of 1813 and of the levy over the four preceding years, will double the divisions. There would then be at Stettin four infantry divisions, or sixty-four battalions; two at Küstrin, or twenty-four battalions; three to Glogau, or forty-eight battalions; two to Spandau, or twenty-four battalions: we can then form three cops, bringing together the 2nd and the 3rd, and in the issuant the 1st and 4th separated. They will then need almost all the batteries that I have for today. It is therefore necessary that the artillery office study the current position of things, in order to be able to follow the times, and to propose to me the most suitable arrangements.[459]

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I look at Danzig and Thorn as blocked, so there should be no question of it today.

The first thing to do is to harness and organize the artillery of the 11th Corps, I suppose that's already done; then five or six mounted artillery batteries, to be attached to the 1st Cavalry Division to be formed, will be included under the title of Vanguard Corps, or 11th Corps.

It is necessary, moreover, to organize immediately two batteries for the 1st corps, two for the 2nd, two for the 3rd and two for the 4th,

After that, what is most urgent is to organize the artillery of the observation corps of the Elbe; next, that of the 1st observation corps of the Rhine; then that of the observation corps of Italy; finally the other ten batteries and the reserve batteries to complete the Grande Armée; and finally, the artillery of the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps,

I want the artillery office to use all means in this way, and make a comparative statement of what I ask for with what I have asked for.

All this is still susceptible of modifications; we can have nothing certain until the enemy has entered the winter quarters; for it is obvious that, if we went back over the Oder, it would require a whole new reorganization, and it could only be done in Magdeburg. But all the odds are that the enemy will not be able to force the headquarters to retake the Oder.

As for the cavalry, it will be as numerous as in the last campaign; it will therefore need the same number of artillery batteries on horseback. Let me know what I had in the last campaign, what I asked for, and what can be offered to me through the reorganization of the horse artillery that will take place this year,

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19521. - TO THE COUNT OF MONTALIVET,
MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, IN PARIS.

Fontainebleau. January 27, 1813.

You asked me what to do for Rome and for Hamburg. I think you ought to write to Count Chaban and the prefects that France makes offers, as they must have seen in the *Moniteur*, that their departments are masters of making them; you will explain to them how this is done in France; you them[460]

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say not to push too much, and that it would be only as much as there would be good will that they should be engaged. The men of Rome, as you will see by the decree, must be part of the 13th of hussars. The men of the 32nd Division, as you will also see, must be part of the 9th Lancers.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19522. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDAT IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau. January 27, 1813.

My Son, I do not yet have clear ideas of how the army should reorganize itself. I do not know what the garrison of Danzig is composed of. I suppose there is the Heudelet division, the Loison division, the Grandjean division and the Neapolitan division. I presume that the field artillery of these divisions was shut up at the same time, and that, independently of this artillery, there are ten companies of artillery on foot which did not make the campaign, some companies of sappers, and the cadres of two battalions of the military crews who must form only one. I think that what you have more available is the 11th Corps, which must be formed in three divisions: the Lagrange Division, which must be evacuated and assembled, and the Grenier Division, which must be divided in two, leaving twelve battalions to General Grenier and giving to the twelve others a general of division of choice. I have told you that you can replace General Lagrange; we can not make such an active war with one arm less. These three divisions will be under the command of the Duke of Elchingen, and will retain the title of 11th Corps, or take the title of Vanguard Corps of the Grand Army. Gather under the orders of General Latour-Maubourg two cavalry divisions, one of light cavalry and one of cuirassiers. That of light cavalry will be under the orders of General Bruyere and that of cuirassiers under those of General Doumerc. You will give them two good brigadier generals, and you will endeavor to assemble 4,000 men of light cavalry and 2,000 cuirassiers; you will thus have 6,000 horses to be with the vanguard body.

The battalions of the 1st corps meet there. Stettin, those of the 2nd at Küstrin, those of 3rd at Spandau, and those of the 4th at Glogau. These battalions will form the garrison of these places. The 2nd battalions, which will complete each other at Erfurt, will return to join these 1st battalions and double the number; so that there will be two divisions of the[461]

the corps at Stettin, one of the 2nd corps at Küslrin, one of the 3rd corps at Spandau, and one of the 4th at Glogau, which will be five divisions.

The 1st corps, which will be at Stettin, is very strong, and can observe Pomerania. Each of these five divisions must have a good general of division and two good generals of brigade.

The 3rd and 4th battalions of the army, which must go to their depots, will be able to leave, the 3rd, in the course of March and the 4th. in the course of April; thus, in the month of June, all the regiments of the army will have four battalions, and at Stettin will be formed four divisions of the 1st corps, two of the 2nd at Küstrin, two of the 3rd at Spandau, and two of the 4th at Glogau; which would make ten divisions.

Artillery and engineers will follow the same proportion, and there will be two divisional artillery batteries. We must begin by first organizing the artillery of the 11th corps; I think it already is, and I think the corps has more than a hundred pieces of cannon. The two cavalry divisions of the Vanguard upstream each have two artillery batteries on horseback, which makes twenty-four guns. Organize in Stettin two batteries for the 1st corps; in Kustrin, two for the second; at Spandau, two for the 3rd, and two at Glogau for the 4th In May, when the 3rd and 4th battalions arrive, another eight batteries will be organized. It will be good only in the course of June that the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th corps will be able to come online; until then they will keep the places and maintain the country.

The army is composed of the vanguard, or 11th corps; of the observation corps of the Elbe, commanded by General Lauriston, who has under him four generals of division: Cana-Saint-Cyr, Puthod, Lagrange (the one who was at Konigsberg) and Rochambeau; all this corps, with its artillery, will be united on the 1st of March at Magdeburg; the observation corps of Italy, commanded by General Bertrand, who will be meeting in Verona and ready to leave on the 1st of March; of the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine, of which the clue of Ragusa will have the command, or the count de Lobau, having under him generals of division Souham, Dubreton, Benet, and Aimeras; this corps will be meeting in Frankfurt on March 1st and ready to leave. These three corps will thus be able to carry on the Oder, the corps of observation of the Elbe will be able to arrive there in the course of April, or rather at the beginning of the month, and those of Italy and the Rhine in the course of April.

Thus, on the 1st of May, the army will be composed of the 11th corps, with thirty-six battalions; of the observation corps of the Elbe, forty-eight battalions; of the observation corps of Italy, forty-eight battalions; of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps, forty-eight battalions,[462]

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having behind them two divisions of the 1st corps, thirty-two battalions; two divisions of the 2nd and 3rd corps, thirty-two battalions; two divisions of the 4th corps, thirty-two battalions; total ninety-six battalions; which would make seventeen divisions and two hundred and seventy-six battalions, having behind it the 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine, composed of four divisions, among which there are twenty battalions of old naval artillery troops; this body will be meeting at the end of March in Magdeburg.

Thus, at the end of June, the situation of the army will be as follows: the vanguard corps, three divisions, thirty-six battalions; the observation corps of the Elbe (which will take a number), the observation corps of Italy (which will take a number), the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine, the 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine, the 1st corps, the 2nd corps and 3rd corps united, will each have four divisions and forty-eight battalions; the 4th corps will have three divisions and thirty-six battalions. Total of the army which will be beyond the Rhine, on the 1st of June, without including the garrison of Danzig, thirty infantry divisions, and three hundred and sixty-two battalions. By setting the battalion at 650 men under arms, that makes more than 200,000 infantry, and counting cavalry, artillery, and genius, it is more than 300,000 Frenchmen. The Westphalian body will be completed to 20,000 men. The Saxon, Wurtemburg and Bavarian corps will be re-filled. The army will be a third stronger than it was the past campaign.

The command of these different corps may be given as follows: 11th corps, Duke of Elchingen; observation corps of the Elbe (taking a number), count of Lauriston; observation corps of Italy (taking a number), Count Berlrand; the Rhine observation corps (taking a number), Duke of Reguse or Count of Lobau; 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine (taking a number), Count de Lobau or Duke of Ragusa; 1st corps, Prince of Eckmühl; 2nd and 3rd corps united, Duke of Reggio; 4th corps, Duke of Taranto.

Observe that I do not pronounce anything definitive: I expect for this new information: but this must give you the idea in general of my projects, The artillery is adapted to this the organization. Already forty-eight companies of artillery on foot are at the Great Army, companies that have not taken part in the campaign; Fifty-two companies are going to be reorganized at Magdeburg, receiving, to be incorporated, fifty-two companies of the cohorts of the National Guard.

As for the cavalry, I will adopt the same organization as in[463]

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the last campaign. All cuirassiers and dragoons will be in April at 600 men per regiment. In May, all regiments of hussars, chasseurs, and light horses will be 1,000 men. I will restore divisions and brigades as they were, except to narrow divisions and brigades according to circumstances.

Assuming that Danzig is invested on February 1, it would only be four months since June 1, and the seat can only begin in April. I will have the whole month of June to carry on Danzig. Once the siege of Danzig and that of Thorn are raised, and my communications established it, having occupied the Nogat, and, if it is considered convenient, Konigsberg, I will set out to go further into another campaign, or I will pass the Niemen. if it seems appropriate, about the 15th of August. This is the most favorable moment, since then the harvest is made, and the forages are ripe for the horses, and that two and a half months are enough to carry me on Vitebsk and the Borysthenes, or to make any other operation, following the circumstances that will happen. Either Austria will become a main party, or her corps will be increased to 60,000 men, which will at the same time provide a means of entering Volhynia.

As for my Guard, I told you to dismiss the cadres. I have already here a division of eleven battalions with its artillery, which will be returned in the course of March in Frankfurt. I had the men of my cavalry dismounted at Fulde. In the month of March, they will be recruited and raised to the number of 2,000 men; in the month of April there will be 1,000; in the month of May, 6,000, and in the month of June, there will be 8,000 men on horseback. A division of the Guard, also with its artillery, will be in the course of April in Frankfurt, a third in the month of May; which will carry my Guard, old and young, naked double of what it was, both in infantry and cavalry, with the same number of pieces of artillery.

I will also have 120,000 men under arms, in France and in Italy, independently of the depots, to defend my coasts and my borders.

I hope you put a good commander, engineers and artillery officers, and at least four artillery companies in Thorn.

I suppose you brought back all the cavalry that was in Warsaw. We must do everything to preserve Warsaw. Austria makes great armaments. According to all the information, the Russian army is in a horrible situation, and can only push on Posen light cavalry or weak line of advance. I'm pressing the[464]

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Prussia to hasten the reorganization of his corps between Posen and Stettin. We must stay in Posen to protect Warsaw and maintain communications. Bring together the vanguard corps or 11th corps. If Prince Schwarzenberg evacuated Warsaw, the 5th corps, which is already 20,000 strong, his own and that of General Reynier would form an army of 60,000 men, and would bring the combined forces between Posen and Silesia to such a number that it is not to think that the Russian army can go beyond, since it can not leave less than 50,000 men before Danzig, and 10,000 before Thorn, as much before Modlin and less than 60,000 men before Galicia. It is therefore impossible for the Russian army to walk on you.

The main thing is to reorganize General Lalour-Maubourg's cavalry corps, in order to be able to light up and keep the enemy away from our communications.

The Grenier division needs rest, but the Lagrange division, which for a long time has been in the Spanduu, Slettin, Küstrin, and Glogau squares, may be at once assembled at Posen. The demibrigade at Magdeburg is heading for Berlin, with the head of the 1st Division of the Elbe Observation Corps on their way and arriving at Magdeburg in the early days of February.

I have written to you to have supplies collected at Spandau and Küstrin. Perhaps it would be proper to have Prussia furnish these supplies, by paying all in cash, at the price at which the king pays his subjects corn and other commodities. I want these supplies to be formed in the course of February. Also give orders for 500,000 biscuit rations to be prepared in each of these places.

If it happens that, for whatever reason, you can not keep yourself at Posen, Grenier's division should not be put in motion unnecessarily, which would demoralize and weaken it.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19523. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDAT IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Fontainebleau. January 27, 1813.

My Son, the Minister of War has written to you to inform you that the detachments of conscripts of each of the twenty-eight regiments of the Grand Army who must go to Erfurt,[465]

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where they will find the cadres of the 2nd battalions, which will complete these twenty-eight battalions, speak of France: the first, that is to say the detachments of the 30th and 33rd, the 10th of February, and they will arrive on the 19th at Erfurt ; the last, that of the 13th Light Infantry, will arrive on the 17th of March. Before March 1st, the battalions of the 30th and 33rd, the 61st and the 111th, the 85th, the 18th and the 57th will have arrived, which will make seven battalions. Order one of the brigade generals of the 1st corps to take under his command these seven battalions and to proceed to Wittenberg, where they may have arrived from the 1st to the 5th of March.

That of the 24th light, those of the 26th light, 4th of line and 72nd, will arrive: before March 8; order one of the brigadier generals of the 2nd or 3rd corps, who must now form only one, to leave with these four battalions and to surrender to Spandau.

The 12th, the 48th, the 108th and the 33rd will arrive before the 12th; order a brigadier-general of the 1st corps to take this brigade and to conduct it also to Dessau.

The 17th and 25th leagues, the 15th light infantry and the 13th light infantry, which will arrive before the 17th, will continue their movement, will meet together in Weimar and from there will continue their movement to go to Wittenberg, where the general of division of the 1st corps will have carried his headquarters, and he will thus have under his command these battalions with two brigadier generals.

I order that the battalion of the 11th light infantry, the 21st line and the 56th, which are at Juliers, Wesel and Grave, go directly to Cassel.

Order that the 2nd battalion of the 21st of the line, those of the 11th light infantry and the 50th, instead of going to Erfurt, go to Cassel, where the embarkation will take place. Send a second-in-command to take command of these three battalions; and after resting at Cassel the necessary number of days, they will be directed to Spandau.

The battalions of the 2nd of the line, of the 37th, of the 93rd, of the 46th, and of the 19th, which arrive later on the 16th, will meet successively at Leipzig, and, as soon as they are assembled, one of the two brigadier generals of the 2nd or of the 3rd corps, which you will send to Erfurt, will take them under his orders, and will conduct them, in short days and after the necessary rest, from Leipzig to Spandau.

So you see that in the course of March, the Grand Army will receive twenty-eight battalions, which will bring to two battalions what each regiment will have.[466]

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The division of the 1st corps, which will meet at Wittenberg, will move to Berlin and from there to Stettin, and the different battalions of the 2nd and 3rd corps will join their corps to Spandau and Küstrin. By this means, from the end of March, the 1st corps and the 2nd (since by my letter it is no longer a question of the 3rd) will be, 1st, composed of two divisions, each of sixteen battalions, and the 2nd corps, composed of two divisions, each of twelve battalions, independently of the Swiss and Illyrians. By this means, these two bodies will already have some existence. Prince Eckmühl will continue to command the 1st corps; he will have 16 to 20,000 men present under arms. The Marshal Duke of Taranto, to whom you can give the command of the 2nd, composed of the 2nd and 3rd, will also have an entire division at Spandau and a whole at Küstrin, that is to say twenty-four battalions (independently of the Illyrians and Swiss), who must make at least 15,000 men under arms.

As to the 4th corps, you will have kept in Glogau all the 1st battalions of the six French regiments which were in Italy, you will have established for the Italian regiments what you have deemed suitable, you will have kept a battalion of the 8th and 18th infantry slight: you will therefore have eight French battalions at Glogau; you will have sent the other cadet to Italy.

Arrest at Augsburg the cadres of the 2nd battalions of these eight regiments. I give the order that 700 conscripts from each depot be sent from Italy, which will complete the 2nd battalions at Augsburg. They will go on small days to Glogau: which will establish fourteen French battalions in the 4th Corps, independently of the Italians. You will form one or two divisions, as will appear to you most suitable.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19524. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDAT IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Paris, January 29, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of January 23rd. I have informed you that it was necessary to assemble a vanguard of 40,000 men and 5 to 6,000 horses, in order to maintain itself at Posen, and thus be able to preserve its communications with Warsaw. I would have liked to give the command of this vanguard to the Marshal Duke of Elchingen; but since you sent him to Paris, you have Marshal Saint-Cyr left.[467]

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Count Daru has arrived; he did not bring me any information on the cavalry or the saddles, so that I received it badly enough. I hope, however, from one moment to the next, to hear from General Bourcier. It seems to me that we should not be long in having a few thousand horses in a position to do themselves honor.

I made known to you my intentions on the reorganization of the army. Pay the balance; but be careful that you pay it only to the presents. I ordered my saddle horses and my house assembled and reorganized in Berlin instead of Magdeburg, and I recommended that my next arrival in Berlin be announced.

The twenty-two regiments composed of the ninety battalions of cohorts are superb.

You will find herewith a copy of the letter which I write to the Minister of War, that you should send to Magdeburg the officers necessary to complete the cadres of these battalions. These twenty-two regiments and the 11th corps combined will be sufficient to repel the enemy beyond the Vistula, when the good season has been reached, and a little cavalry will be available.

Make the Attic division work as little as possible, and above all, do not make him walk hard. A retreat from Posen to the Oder would demoralize her and lose her.

You will see in the Moniteur that the kingdom of Italy is electrifying: Milan has offered me 100 horses; I am assured that the kingdom will supply 2,000. I ordered that these horses be divided among the depots of the four cavalry regiments which we have in Italy.

I have marched a superb corps of 20,000 men drawn from the navy, and of which the least soldier has a year's service; they themselves asked to walk.

You must say, and yourself be well convinced that, next campaign, I will drive the enemy beyond the Niemen.

Return the prince of Neuehdtel, since he is in such bad condition.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19525. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTHE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 30, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I thought fit to send my aide-de-camp Lemarois to take the higher command of the Grand Duchy of Berg, lead all the troops and smother this[468]

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fire. As a result, General Brenier will command 3,000 to 4,000 men with a brigadier general and be able to take up his duties at Wesel.

I send you the letter of General Brenier; I approve of his conduct. Let him know that I have sent him orders since, and that at this moment I send my help from Camp Lemarois to Düsseldorf.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19526. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, January 31, 1813.

Reiterate the orders to the King of Spain to carry his headquarters to Valladolid, to occupy Madrid only by the extremity of his left, and to bring back considerable forces in the North and Aragon, in order to subdue the north of Spain.

NAPOLEON

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19527. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT FONTANELLI, MINISTER OF WAR AND NAVY OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, MILAN.

Paris. January 31, 1813.

Count Fontanelli, there are twelve regiments of line or light infantry in Italy, which makes forty-eight battalions. My intention is that you send me the situation of these regiments, battalion by battalion, company of the company, being careful to indicate from what date the situation is. The same goes for cavalry, artillery and engineers.

I must send this statement every month. You can then make a summary similar to the one you sent me on the 15th of this month. In your states of the 15th of January, you carry the army to 80,000 men; but the losses made in Spain and in the Grande Armée must require a deduction of 24,000 men; we can only calculate on the existence of an army of 56,000 men; you increase it by a call of 6,000 men on the reserve of 1813; the army will therefore be more than 60,000 men.

You will present me a draft decree so that the battalions that are in Spain are reduced to eight or ten, by pouring all that the other cadets have available and by sending back these cadets[469]

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in Italy. But we must take care that men do not leave their regiments, that is to say that the regiments which have three battalions keep one or two, by pouring in these all the available men, and send back the other battalion in Italy.

You will order that all the cadres of the sixteen battalions who were in the 4th Corps of the Grand Army return to Italy, except those of two line battalions and one of light infantry in which we will incorporate what is available in the sixteen battalions.

You will send to the observation corps of Italy, which meets at Verona, the eight battalions, as I have already told you. The forty - eight battalions of the army of Italy will therefore be employed as follows: eight or ten in Spain; seventeen to the Grand Army, six to the corps of General Grenier, three to the V Corps, and eight to the observation corps of Italy, total, twenty-five battalions outside the kingdom; thus twenty-one or twenty-three will remain independent of the 5th battalions, all of which will be completed with the conscription of 1814 and, if necessary, by an appeal on earlier conscriptions.

There are four regiments in the 4th corps, two of chasseurs and two of dragons. For both of chasseurs, the cadre of one will enter Italy, and the cadre of the other, completed with which both have available, will remain in Nurernberg or Barnberg.

It is the same with dragons; one regiment will remain at Bamberg or Nuremberg, and the other will return to Italy. You will send as soon as possible 600 dragoons and 600 chasseurs to recruit these two regiments at Bamberg or Nuremberg. You will send with them as many harnessed horses as you can, and the horses necessary to complete them, you will buy them in Bamberg. Finally, you will have the necessary harnesses made in this town, so that at the end of March these two regiments may come into line with 800 horses each.

You will complete the 1st of chasseurs to 1,000 horses and 1,000 men; he will be part of the observation corps of Italy. All the men and horses offered by the communes and the cantons, you will incorporate them into these five regiments, at the rate of 400 men per regiment, if there are 2,000 horses to be distributed; and at the rate of 500 men, if there are 2,500; that will complete your regiments to 1,000 men and 1,000 horses. The 4th of chasseurs is already in this suit; the first of chasseurs has 225 men and 225 horses; you have 1,000 men at the chasseurs depot and the same number between[470]

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the two dragon regiments; So you have 3,225 men, regardless of what's left to the four regiments that are at the Grand Army. It is therefore probable that with the gifts, which will be of 2,000 men and 2,000 horses, you will be able to put these regiments in full; and then we will have the following result: two regiments of chasseurs, a regiment of dragoons at the Grande Armée. 3,000 men; two regiments of chasseurs, a regiment of dragoons in Italy, 3,000 men; total, 6,000 men.

The division of the observation corps of Italy will have its artillery; the division of the Grande Armée already has it. Anything from the artillery train that belongs to the 4th Corps will be able to travel to Italy to reorganize. For the moment, I will wait for the answer and the state that I ask you before making any decision on the lifting of the previous years. I approve that you raised 6,000 men on the rising of 1813. In the distribution of these 6,000 men, it is necessary that you give much to the train of artillery and the military equipages, in order to reorganize them, It is also necessary to give to the regiments that were in the 4th Corps of the Grand Army.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. 1. The Duchess of Leuehtenberg.

19528. - TO THE VICE-ADMIRAL COUNT DECRIES, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 2, 1813.

Order Admiral Baste to proceed to Swedish Pomerania, where he will, under the orders of General Morand (1), in charge of the command of the flotilla, and to take all measures for the defense of the island of Rügen and coasts. He will also visit the mouths of the Oder, in order to be able, according to the circumstances, to give the proper orders.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

1952U. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris. February 3, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, the Viceroy writes to me, dated January 27th, that General Bülow has only 300 cavalrymen, and thus Prussia, instead of competing with us to defend his army.

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1) Morand (Joseph).[471]

territory and to repair General York's treason, does nothing. There are 2,000 cavalrymen who lock themselves in the forts of Silesia, known if they were afraid of us, instead of helping us and covering their country.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19530. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS

Paris. February 3, 1813.

I answer your letter of February 3rd. I see that there are at the depots of the interior 13,260 men; that I granted them on the conscription of the four classes 13,700 men, and that you thus ask 18,758 men to wear them in full of 500 men by deposit. This number is too considerable. I see that you have not understood in the 13,000 men existing at the depots the workmen, etc., who are there; this will increase the increase by about 4,000 men, and there would be only 11,000 men required.

My intention is that out of 500 men, 250 mounted men will leave for the Grand Army, and 150 well-equipped men on foot will also leave for Germany, where they will receive horses; which makes, for the eighty-eight depots, 35,200 men; and finally there will remain in each depot a hundred men, in which I understand the workers, the men to reform, etc., and 25 or 30 men who can be taken to ride the horses from voluntary donations and who would be given without riders.

My intention is to complete all the cadres of my cavalry regiments, by the conscription of 1814, to 1,250 men per regiment. Take a glimpse of these bases of what would be wanting to put them on this foot. At the end of March, when I intend to call the conscription of 1814, we will have more precise information; but this overview will be good to have from this moment, to fix our ideas.

Finally, it will also be necessary to calculate the number of horses needed; For example, the 1st regiment of carabineers has 700 men, wishing to carry it 1,250, it will be necessary to give him 550 men on the conscription of 1814; It will also be necessary to supply 550 horses and 550 saddles during the months of June, July, August and September. If this leads to too great a result, it could be modified.[472]

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The number of officers on whom I operate is sixteen regiments of cuirassiers or carabineers, twenty-four of dragons, eight of light horses, twenty-eight of chasseurs, and twelve of hussars; total, eighty-eight regiments; to which must be added the 13th and 14th hussars of which I have just ordered the formation. These eighty-eight regiments, with a total of 1,230 men, make 110,000 horses, of which we must cut off the 12,000 that are in Spain; he remains gifted 98,000 horses. We have at present, calculating at 20,000 voluntary donations, 63,000; it would therefore be 35,000 horses to be procured in 1813 and throughout the winter until April 1814. If that were too great for the conscription of 1814, one would take what would be missing from that of 1815, which I suppose to be lifted in February 1814.

According to his minute. Archives of the Empire.

19531. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF GUERRA, IN PARIS

Paris, February 4, 1813,

Duke de Feltre, he will remain in the deposits after the formation of the observation corps 88,000 men; removing 28,000 for the deaths, there will remain 60,000 men whom I wish to use. This number must be considerably reduced by the different arrangements I have made today, such as sending 500 men for each of the twenty-eight regiments of the Grand Army to complete the 1st and 2nd battalions, using a cadre of the three companies of the 6th battalions; this must decrease by 14,000 men. The dispatch of what is necessary for the division of Erfurt from the 123rd, 124th, 127th, 128th and 129th, will form a diminution of 4,000 men. The formation of the six battalions of the 12th division will make a reduction of 5,000 men; the formation of the six battalions of the reserve divisions must make a diminution of 5,000 men. There will still be some thirty thousand men available, but we must also remove the provisions that will relate to the 35th, 36th light, 131st, 132nd and 133rd line; it must still be an object of 5,000 men, so there will remain only 25,000 men. The finished corps supply to Bayonne and some who are in Italy, and are not likely to be disturbed, must also mitigate this number.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy, Depot of War.[473]

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19532, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF GUERRA, IN PARIS

Paris. February 4, 1813.

I have read carefully your February 4 report on the train. I wrote to you yesterday for this subject.

I want you to present me with a general decree for the entire train of France.

It is necessary to suppress the name of *bis* and to make regiments of two battalions, four companies per battalion and a 9th company of deposit; strengthen officers as officers.

The 2nd Main Battalion, the 4th Main, the 11th, the 14th and the 1st, having five eighteen companies in Germany, will be incorporated as well as the 3rd, 8th, 9th, 11th and 11th. 13th *bis*; this will remove forty-eight companies, and these forty-eight companies will be incorporated into the 1st, 6th, 8th and 9th major. These four regiments will be organized at the Grand Army to nine companies, which will make thirty-six companies. The 9th company of the 1st, 6th, 8th and 9th, forming the depot of these regiments, will go to France. Officers and non-commissioned officers would be added to the cadres who would remain in the army, and the officers and non-commissioned officers of surplus would be sent back to the depot at Mainz. The thirty-two companies thus reorganized and remaining in the army would make 4,480 men to 140 men per company, and 8,000 horses to 250 per company; that's all you need in Germany. All that the 7th *bis* has available would go to Augsburg to be incorporated in the 7th, It would send cadres of the Army of Spain to train in Verona a regiment of nine companies under the No. 9. All that the 7th principal would have available would go to the Fere.

It would remain in France fourteen companies of the battalions suppressed and one of the 11th principal; which would make fifteen.

There would be, independently of this, fourteen companies belonging to the battalions of Spain, which makes, on the one hand, fifteen companies available, and, on the other, fourteen; total, twenty-nine companies; plus seven companies of 7th, which will make thirty-six. Four regiments would be formed under Nos. 16, 17, 18, and 19; each regiment of eight companies and a company at the depot.

We would also organize the battalions that are in Spain. We will therefore have four regiments at the Grande Armée, and in France their four companies, ring the 15th, the 16th, the 17th, the 18th and the 19th Regiment.[474]

According to your report, it would appear that 2,000 men of the conscription of the four years would have to be taken, that the four companies of the four battalions kept at the Grande Armée would be given to dress and equip them without delay. and to put them in a position to go quickly to complete their bodies. There remain 3,000 men who would appear to be missing.

What is most pressing is that you first took 1,600 men out of the 10,000 men I put at your disposal yesterday. Take more, if you need it, and write me a good organization of the train, consisting of regiments with two battalions, each battalion of four companies, and the regiment having only one depot.

Today we have twenty-seven battalions, I believe, four and six companies. It would therefore be possible to reduce by almost half the number of administrations and to have only about fifteen regiments. It is a notable saving and a great simplification of order to reduce the number of deposits.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19533, - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE OBSERVATION BODY OF ITALY, IN VERONA,

Paris, 4th of February, 18th.

Count Bertrand, you will have received your orders for the observation corps of Italy. All your arrangements must be made. It is necessary that everything be reunited in Bassano, Vicenza, Verona and Brescia on March 1st. These divisions will enter the Tyrol, they can pass through Bassano, Verona and Brescia to get to Trento. The Italian division will meet in Brescia,

NAPOLEON.

According to the original comm. By Mr. General Henry Bertrand.

19534. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDAT IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN

Paris, February 4th, 1813.

Write to General Morand, commander in Swedish Pomerania, that he should put in order the works which defend the island of Rügen and Pomerania. Let him know that a corps of fifteen or twenty thousand men will arrive in the month of April for the defense of the country; so it's okay that the supplies[475]

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let everything be in order, and let him not wait for the last moment to arm his works.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. Pal 'S, A. I. Mm, Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19535, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDAT IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN,

Paris, February 4th, 1813.

My son, the forts of Glogau, Stettin, Küstrin, Spaudau and Magdeburg need a large amount of wood, either for blockhouses or armor. My intention is that you should give orders at once to have all the woods which are in these towns required, and that all the wooden trains which are eight leagues in the neighborhood on the rivers, belonging either to the King of Prussia or to individuals, are required and transported to the city. If this is not enough, cuts should be made in all the woods closest to the city, either special properties or royal properties; lastly, that we neglect nothing and obtain all that is necessary. You will give the same orders for the supply of wood; I hear that it costs nothing; to take in the forests, whether peculiar or royal, and in walks; that a large quantity of gabions, sausages and stakes be established.

Known I ordered that there was a lot of artillery in these places, as well as officers of the Blessed, they must take care immediately of what is necessary, Order that the defense committee, presided by the governor and composed of engineers and artillery officers and war commissioners, make all requisitions and take all necessary measures on the spot and without waiting for your approval, they will however send you all their deliberations, Finally all places must be supplied for one year for the garrisons they must have. You will give them instructions that, in case of investment, the cattle and fodder that would be convenient for them, eight or ten leagues from the place, be shut up in the town.

It is necessary to fence as quickly as possible what must be palisaded, and to shield what must be shielded. The commissioner of war will also be in charge of asking the inhabitants and transporting in the stores, with good receipts, the objects of medicine and supplies, and all that can be used to make bags, cartridges and cartridges. cartridge.[476]

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You know that the most important of these places is Küstrin. You will make known to the governors that I will accept no excuse, and that if, with good receipts, they do not procure in their commandments all that is necessary to them, I will make them responsible, and will consider them guilty of not have not done it.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. Pal 'S, A. I. Mm, Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19536. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Paris, February 5th, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I am responding to your letter of February 1st (artillery office).

State n ° 1 contains the crews of the 11th corps, or advance guard, brought to 76 guns, those of the cavalry of vanguard, brought to 24, and those of the cavalry of the 1st, 2nd and 4th corps , forming, with the foregoing, 222 guns and 1,472 wagons. This state seems good to me, but you must understand the Italian artillery. Thus you carry the existence of the 11th corps only to 76 guns: that seems to me very little; do you understand that in the Italian battery that was part of the 35th division? Then the missing, instead of being 54 would be less.

I put it necessary for the vanguard, or 11th corps, 3,000 horses (this is the most urgent to provide), and that for the avant-garde of the 1st, 2nd and 4th corps must 7,400 horses; that's about what we can get from Germany.

The formation of the advanced crew, or the 11th corps, with 100 guns and 640 wagons, is all that is in a hurry; after that, the formation of half of the artillery and crew of the 1st Corps, 2nd and 4th, forming 16 pieces on foot and a battery on horseback, that is to say, 22 guns for the 1st body, 22 mouths for the 2nd, 22 mouths for the 4th; then the formation of the artillery of the observation corps of the Elbe; after this, the formation of the 2nd part of the artillery of the. 1st, 2nd and 4th corps, the formation of the artillery of the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine, and then that of the 2nd corps. I do not speak of the observation corps of Italy, which forms the system separately.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[477]

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19537. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDAT IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN.

Paris, February 5th, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of January 30th. I see, in the state of the field artillery, that you have 92 pieces; but I see a division Girard carried for 12 pieces: I am not what it is that the division. It would be well, therefore, for you to send me the situation of all the corps you have in hand, in order to keep me informed.

I very much approve of the party you have taken for the dispatches to Erfurt. You will see in the attached copy what I just ordered the Minister of War.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. Pal 'S, A. I. Mm, Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19538. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Paris, February 5th, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I do not approve of the formation of the fifty provisional demi-brigades, forming one hundred and fifty battalions, for the guard of the interior; here is how this work. must be done.

32nd MILITARY DIVISION.

I have made known to you my intentions for the 32nd Military Division, and I have organized a division of twelve battalions, to be increased to fifteen, and to eighteen if possible, by having them furnished either by the cadres of the 80th, 81st and 82nd Divisions of the Grand Army who return, either by the 5th battalions, drawing only three companies from each 5th battalion. These eighteen battalions will form three brigades, of which one of six battalions will be placed at Hamburg; another of the same strength at Bremen, and the third at Osnabruck or Lubeck, according to the circumstances.

FRONTIÈHES OF RHINE AND OCEAN.

The defense of France, from the 31st and 17th military divisions to Besançon and Bordeaux, will take place in two ways by the formation of garrison battalions, composed of companies from the 5th battalions and which will garrison our places the forts, and by the formation of provisional demi-brigades.

The demi-brigades will first be twenty-four to[478]

this part of the border stretching from the 31st division to the 11th.

Each demi-brigade will be composed of three whole battalions, without being able to enter, under any pretext whatsoever, a fraction of the 5th battalion. These twenty-four demi-brigades will be formed as follows:

The 1st demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 7th, 13th and 15th regiments of light infantry; the 2nd demi-brigade, 6th battalions of the 83rd, 26th and 24th light; the 3rd demi-brigade, the 4th battalions of the 11th, 10th light and the 21st, which comes from Spain; the 4th demi-brigade, battalions of the 9th, 27th and 28th light, which come from Spain; the 5th demi-brigade, 6th battalions of the 12th, coming from Spain, 5th and 29th light; the 6th demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 12th, 21st and 17th lines; the 7th demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 25th, 30th and 33rd; the 8th demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 48th, 57th and 108th; the 9th demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 85th, 61st and 111th the 10th demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 2nd, 19th and 37th; the 11th demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 56th, 72nd and 46th; the 12th demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 4th, 18th and 93rd; the 13th demi-brigade, battalions of the 3rd, 105th and 29th, coming back from the Grand Army; the 14th demi-brigade, battalions of the 124th, 127th, and 128th, coming back from Erfurt; the 15th demi-brigade, battalions of the 129th, 131st and 132nd; the 16th demi-brigade, battalions of the 133rd, 29th and 40th; the 17th demi-brigade, battalions of the 63rd, 65th and 43rd, coming back from Spain; the 18th demi-brigade, battalions of the 34th, 69th and 67th; the 19th demi-brigade, battalions of the 100th, 103rd and 123rd; the 20th demi-brigade, battalions of the 8th, 45th and 54th; the 21st demi-brigade, battalions of the 94th, 95th and 21st; the 22nd demi-brigade, battalions of the 32nd, 58th and 64th; the 23rd demi-brigade, the battalions of the 47th, 70th and 86th; the 24th demi-brigade, battalions of the 15th, 121st and 122nd, coming from Spain.

These twenty-four demi-brigades will form six divisions; each division, four demi-brigades or twelve battalions, namely:

The 1st Division, at Mainz, composed of the 1st, 10th, 11th and 12th demi-brigades;

The 2nd Division, at Wesel, composed of the 3rd, 6th, 7th and 9th demi-brigades;

The 3rd division, at Antwerp, composed of the 2nd, 8th, 17th and 21st demi-brigades;

The 4th Division, at Utrecht, composed of the 4th, 13th, 19th and 20th demi-brigades;[479]

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The 5th Division, at Cherbourg, composed of the 5th, 11th, 18th and 22nd demi-brigades;

The 6th Division, in Rennes, composed of the 23rd, 24th, 15th and 16th demi-brigades.

The garrison battalions will be forty-five; they will be drawn from the 5th battalions, which will each provide three companies:

In Huningue, a battalion or 840 men; in Strasbourg, two battalions, 1,680 men; at Mainz, two battalions, 1,680; at Wesel, two battalions, 1,680; in Antwerp, two battalions, 1,680; at Berg-op-Zoom, Willemstad and Goeree, two battalions, 1,680; at Flying, two battalions, 1,680; at Coeverden and Delfzyl, two battalions, 1,680; at Heeuevoetsluis and Brielle, two battalions, 1,680; at Ostend and Nieuport, two battalions, 1,680; at Gravelines and Dunkirk, two battalions, 1,680; in Calais, two battalions. 1,680; at Boulogne and Montreuil, two battalions, 1,680; at Abbeville, a battalion, 840; in Le Havre, a battalion, 840; at Cherbourg, two battalions, 1,680; at Saint-Malo, two battalions, 1,680; at Brest, two battalions, 1,680; at Lorient, two battalions, 1,680; at Belle-Ile, two battalions, 1,1380; at Nan tes, two battalions, 1,680; at La Rochelle, the Isle of Re, and the Isle of Yeu, two battalions, 1,680; on the island of Aix, the island of Oléron and Rochefort, two battalions, 1,680; at the shores of Bardeaux, 2 battalions or 1,680 men: total, forty-five garrison battalions and 37,800 men.

You will have the training project of these battalions. You will be careful to have the companies supply them, as far as possible, by the depots which are in the place. At least they must be composed as much as possible without leaving the military division.

The artillery companies that remain in France will be divided so that each stronghold has enough to stir a few pieces, and that, if a place was threatened, we can find, at five or six days of walking, all that it would be necessary to enclose it.

In general, I put in the same demi-brigades the corps of the Grande Armée. I have removed the 123rd, 121st, 125th, 128th, 129th regiments of the coasts of Holland and Germany, throwing them on the side of Cherbourg and Rennes.

The offices that will verify this work will see what needs to be done to perfect it. Having regard to the above considerations, my intention is to place the regiments so that they are kept as far away as possible from their deposits.[480]

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Thus, for this part of France, there will be twenty-four demi-brigades, forming seventy-two battalions, forty-five garrison battalions, and three wards, or one hundred and twenty battalions. This force is more than it is necessary; but the formation of the garrison battalions will have the advantage of making available the twenty-four provisional demi-brigades, which could be carried to Holland, to Hamburg, or to the rear of the army in Germany, if the circumstances required it. in the course of the year.

BORDER OF THE PYRENEES.

The observation corps of Bayonne must be the object of a separate work. The 31st Light, the 31st, the 115th, the 116th, the 117th, the 118th, the 119th, and the 114th are specially designed to form this corps.

TOULON.

It will be formed, for the defense of Toulon, three provisional demi-brigades, under numbers 25, 26 and 27; they will be composed as follows: 25th demi-brigade, battalions of the 1st, 16th and 62nd line; 26th demi-brigade, the battalions of the 5th, 11th and 60th line; 27th demi-brigade, the battalions of the 79th, 81st of line and the battalion of the 32nd light. It will be moreover formed, for the garrison of Toulon, four garrison battalions; two for Marseilles, two for Antibes, two for Cette; total ten garrison battalions; it will take in the 7th, 8th and 9th military divisions.

PIEDMONT. - 21st AND 28th DIVISIONS.

It will be formed, for the defense of Piedmont, Alexandria and Genoa, a division composed of three demi-brigades, which will be organized under Nos. 28, 29 and 30, namely: 28th demi-brigade, the battalions of the 7th , 52nd and 67th; 29th demi-brigade, the battalions of the 101st, 20th and 42nd, coming from Spain; 30th demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 42nd and 102nd, and the battalion of the 102nd coming from Spain.

In addition, two garrison battalions will be formed for Genoa, two for Alexandria, one for Turin, one for La Spezia; total, six garrison battalions to be fired from twelve regiments.

ITALY.

It will be formed, for Italy, four demi-brigades, as it follows: 31e demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 9th, the 35th and the 53rd; 32nd demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 54th, 92nd and 106th; 33rd demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 112th, 13th of the line and the battalion of the 8th light coming back from Spain; 34th demi-brigade, the 6th battalions of the 8th light, the 18th and the 36th.[481]

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In addition, six garrison battalions will be formed: two for Palmanova, two for Venice, one for Ancona, one for Livorno; total, six.

These troops will be mingled with twenty-four Italian battalions, so as to form two beautiful divisions, which will be able to guard the Illyrian provinces, Venice and the Tyrol; the other, Ancona, Tuscany and Home.

This organization will be the subject of a particular work.

SUMMARY.

1st Rhine frontiers and the coasts of the ocean: 24 demi-brigades and 45 garrison battalions; together, 117 battalions;

2nd Côtes de Toulon: 3 demi-brigades and 10 garrison battalions; together, 19 battalions;

3rd 27th and 28th divisions: 3 demi-brigades and 6 garrison battalions; together, 15 battalions;

4th Italy: 4 demi-brigades and 6 battalions; together, 18 battalions. Total, 34 demi-brigades and 67 garrison battalions; together, 169 battalions.

This letter should only be considered as an instruction, and you must offer me better, if you find the means.

I think that the garrison battalions must be multiplied as much as possible, without taking the troops too far from their depots. The advantage that I find there is that the divisions composed of demi-brigades can become active and be carried wherever it is necessary, since the safety of the places will be entrusted to separate troops.

All these provisions must make the value of 140,000 men.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19539. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 6th, 1813.

The Duke of Feltre, the cavalry of the Grand Army will be provisionally divided into two corps, the 1st and the 2nd.

The 1st corps will be commanded by General Latour-Maubourg. This corps will be composed of two divisions of light cavalry and two divisions of cuirassiers. Each division will have a horse artillery battery and will be divided into two brigades. Two brigade generals will therefore be attached to each division.[482]

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The 1st division of light cavalry will be commanded by General Bruyère, the other by General Chastel. These two divisions will include all the regiments that were part of the 1st Light Cavalry Division, all those of the 3rd Light Cavalry Division which was attached to the 3rd Cavalry Corps, and finally all of the two Light Cavalry Brigades who were attached to the 1st Cavalry Division. corps and the two brigades attached to the 4th Army Corps, as well as the 1st, 3rd and 5th Light Horse Regiments.

Thus the 1st Division of Light Cavalry, commanded by Count Bruyère, will be composed of the 3rd and 4th Brigades and 1st, 3rd, 5th and 8th light horse regiments; total, eight regiments.

The 3rd Light Cavalry Division, commanded by General Chastel, will be composed of the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th Brigades, and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd regiments of chasseurs; total, eleven regiments.

The 1st division of cuirassiers will be commanded by the general Bordesoulle, and composed of the 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 9th, 11th and 12th regiments of cuirassiers; six regiments, which will form two brigades.

The 3rd Division of Cuirassiers will be commanded by General Doumerc, composed of the 4th, 7th and 11th Cuirassiers, 7th, 23rd, 28th and 30th regiments of dragoons; seven regiments, which will form two brigades.

The 1st Cavalry Corps will therefore have two divisions of light cavalry and two divisions of cuirassiers, or nineteen regiments of light cavalry, nine cuirassiers and four of dragons; in all, thirty-two regiments.

General Latour-Maubourg will take command of the four divisions above. There will be an artillery general to command the artillery of this corp. All the detachments which must be part of these four divisions will meet at Posen or at Frankfort-on-the Oder, according as the Viceroy will designate it; so that each re-act has a company of 100 men present, assembled, well equipped and well armed; which will bring this corps to 3,200 men at once. General Latour-Maubourg will appoint a brigadier general to act as inspector, in order to traverse the depots of these different regiments and, as soon as possible, send a second company to form a squadron; which will bring this corps to 6,400 men, which is the evaluation of what must be at the Grand Army, belonging to these regiments.

The 2nd Cavalry Corps will meet at Magdeburg and on the Elbe. It will be commanded by General Sebustiani, who will take the orders of General Lauriston. It will consist of two cavalry divisions[483]

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light and a division of cuirassiers, namely: the 2nd division of light cavalry, commanded by General Pajol and composed of the 7th and 8th brigades of light cavalry, 2nd and 4th regiment of light horse; total, six regiments; the 4th Light Cavalry Division, commanded by General Exelmans and composed of the 6th Lancers and the 4th, 7th, 20th, 23rd, 24th, and Hussars; total, seven regiments.

Each of these divisions will be formed into two brigades and will have two brigade generals.

The 2nd Division of Cuirassiers, commanded by Count Wattier, will be composed of the 1st, 5th, 8th and 10th regiments of Cuirassiers, and 1st and 2nd of Carabineers; total, six regiments.

Total of the three divisions of the 2nd corps, nineteen regiments.

The Wauier division will also be formed into two brigades and will have two brigade generals.

Each light cavalry division will have a horse-drawn artillery battery; the 2nd division of cuirassiers will have two; this will make four batteries for the 2nd corps. A general of artillery of the reserve will be attached to the command of the artillery of this corps.

The 2nd corps will meet in Magdeburg and on the Elbe. General Sebastiani will designate brigade generals from among those who were employed in the brigades that are part of this new corps. All commanding generals and warrant officers, who will not be included in the organization of the 1st and 2nd Corps, will proceed without delay to Mainz. General Sebastiani will also choose a brigadier general to carry out the duties of inspector, in order to traverse the depots of the regiments, and to assemble on the Elbe, between Magdeburg and Dessau, all the men assembled and equipped, to have as soon as possible one squadron for each regiment of the 2nd corps.

Recommend to General Latour-Mauhourg and General Sebastiani to take all the appropriate measures, and to correspond with you and General Bourcier, for the prompt organization of their respective corps, which, with the help of France, must be complete with 1,000 men per regiment.

Two corps will be formed in France, one of which will be composed of all the detachments belonging to the 1st cavalry corps; the other, of all detachments belonging to the 2nd corps. A general of division, returning from the army, will be in charge of the command of the first of these two corps. It will be the same for the command of the second.

The detachments of the 1st corps will be formed in four divisions[484]

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and those of the 2nd in three divisions, corresponding to the divisions of the 1st and 2nd corps of cavalry; each division will be commanded by a brigadier general.

You will give me an account of all the mounted and equipped detachments that will be able to leave from the depots of France, from February 15th to March 1st, to go to Mainz, where these two corps will meet, and from there on the Oder or on the Elbe.

You will charge generals who have arrived from the army at Mainz to go through the depots to review them and activate the organization and departure of the various detachments.

It will also be formed in France a 3rd corps, also commanded by a general of division. This corps will be composed of four divisions, formed of all the squadrons which may be furnished in France by the depots of the regiments which are in Spain.

The squadrons of the Duchy of Berg who are at the Grand Army, and who would be in a state, will meet at the regiment of the Guard which is in Posen and that Major Lion orders.

The brigade of light cavalry and dragoons which is at Danzig, under the command of General Cavaignac, will form a brigade designated under the name of Brigade Cavaignac, forming a garrison at Danzig.

NAPOLEON.

P.S. The 3rd corps, formed in France, will be under the title of *squadrons of the army of Spain*. It will meet in Metz and will be composed of four divisions:

1st division. 1st brigade: two squadrons of the 5th chasseurs, two squadrons of the l0th, two of the 13th, two of the 14th, 500 men each: 2,000 men. 2nd brigade: two squadrons of the 15th chasseurs, two of the 21st, two of the 22nd, two of the 26th, 500 men each: 2,000 men. Or, for the 1st division, 4,000 men.

2nd division. 1st brigade: two squadrons of the 27th chasseurs, two of the 28th, two of the 29th, two of the 31st, 500 men each: 2,000 men. 2nd brigade: two squadrons of the 1st of hussars, two squadrons of the 2nd, two of the 3rd, two of the 4th, two of the 9th, 500 men each: 2,500 men. Or, for the 2nd division, 4,500 men.

3rd division. 1st brigade: two squadrons of the 2nd of dragoons, two of the 5th, two of the 12th, two of the 13th, two of the 14th: 2,500 men. 2nd Brigade (including everything that is part of the Cavaignac brigade in Danzig): two squadrons of the lie of dragons, two of the 19th, two[485]

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of the 20th, two of the 4th, two of the 6th, of 500 men each: 2,500 men. For the 3rd division, 5,000 men.

4th division. 1st brigade: two squadrons of the 11th of dragons, two of the 15th, two of the 16th, two of the 18th, two of the 21st, 500 men each: 2,500 men. 2nd brigade: two squadrons of the 22nd of dragons, two of the 24th, two of the 25th, two of the 26th, two of the 27th, 500 men each: 2,300 men. For the 4th division, 5,000 men.

General Grouchy will take command of this reserve.

General Kellermann will take command of the 1st Light Cavalry Division. General Defrance will command one of the two divisions of dragons.

You will propose to me the other generals of division and brigade to employ, and you will take them among those who return from the Grand Army and have no destination yet.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19540. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 6, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, it is time to look in detail at the organization of the Elbe Observation Corps, which will be in Magdeburg this month. My intention is that you order General Lauriston to have his headquarters at Magdeburg from the 15th to the 20th of February. His first division will be at Brandenburg, the second at Magdeburg; his third, at Brunswick; his fourth, at Halberstadt.

All divisional generals, commanding warrant officers, chiefs of staff, staff assistants, artillery commanders, war commissioners, administrations, and two brigadier generals by division must be present at that time. . Take, consequently, the best generals among those who commanded the cohorts who are now part of the Elbe observation corps, and order them to rejoin their division without delay.

This order to give is very pressing.

Name a engineer general to command the engineers. The authorizing officer and the general engineer are appointed.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.[486]

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19541. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 6th, 1813.

I receive your report of February 6th (artillery office). I am pleased to see that you have already 3,000 horseback renderings. You propose to put in motion 600 wagons, namely: 280 for what is missing in the vanguard, 60 for the 2nd division of the Elbe corps, 130 for the 4th division of the same corps, 130 to take for this which is necessary to complete the Grande Armée: I would have to study an hour to understand what that means.

I want you to give me a statement that you will divide into four parts, and which will tell me the staff of the train that is in the interior, and what are the companies that you intend to harness the wagons of the observation corps of the Elbe, those of the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine, those of the 2nd corps of the Rhine, and finally those to be sent to the Grande Armée. Then you will let me know what every company will have available on February 15, the number of sails they can harness, and what caliber and what kind these cars are.

I look at the first three divisions of the corps of the Elbe as already rendered; so it is important to get the artillery that is needed. The 1st Division of the 1st Corps of the Rhine is already at Frankfurt; it is therefore important to send him his artillery. The artillery of the vanguard is of the first importance; 280 wagons are missing; it is important to send them. As for the 1st, 2nd and 4th corps, it squeezes less. I will therefore wait for these states and movement plans to approve them definitively. In the meantime, write to warn the directors that they will be ordered to start horses and men; that they activate the armament, the clothing, etc.

The entry into Germany of such a large number of wagons will be of great and good effect.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19542. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 6, 1813.

Count de Cessac, the Elbe observation corps, composed of four divisions, is on the march for Magdeburg, or the[487]

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Headquarters will be from the 15th to the 20th. You have already appointed the Chief Authorizing Officer. It is necessary that there be a commissioner of wars and an assistant for each division, that there be a doctor and a principal surgeon for the corps, and as many surgeons as the force of the corps.

Each division needs six ambulance boxes loaded, regardless of six for the headquarters, which is thirty caissons.

I have destined a battalion of military equipages, the first to be in a state, to make by this body. I wish you to send on February 15th a company of forty caissons of this battalion, well harnessed and well served; you will have them loaded with ambulance effects at Mainz, and by mid-March these caissons may be divided among the four divisions, and this part of the service will be provided.

Heads of administration are needed for the various divisions and the corps. There is not a moment to lose to organize these services; All that is to be done by the administration is due on the 1st of March in Magdeburg.

Let me know when the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th crews for this corps will be able to leave for Magdeburg. This battalion must leave as soon as possible, company by company; all except the first, which must take the effects of ambulance, must be run empty, in order to arrive in better condition at Magdeburg.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19543. - TO GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF ORSERVATION OF THE ELBA, AT MUNSTER.

Paris. February 6, 1813.

Count Lauriston, I received your letter from Wesel on February 3rd. The Rhine Observation Corps will watch over the disorders of the Grand Duchy of Berg. I think it is fitting that on the 16th of February all that you have in this duchy speaks of it, and that you gather all your divisions on Magdeburg, where your headquarters must be from the 15th to the 20th of February. You can place a division on the right bank and one on the left bank, three or four days from Magdeburg, taking care that there is no detachment from the Grande Armée with your troops. Walking artillery companies[488]

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have already returned to Magdeburg. Successively the material will arrive there, and the presence of such a considerable force in Magdeburg will be felt even on the Vistula. You can leave a regiment in Hamburg until the six battalions of the united divisions have arrived at Hamburg.

I changed the commander of your 1st division; instead of General Carra Sainl-Cyr, it will be General Maison, an excellent officer, whom I ordered to go to Hamburg. General Lagrauge, who commands your 2nd division, must have already arrived, as well as General Puthod. General Rochambeau, who commands your 4th Division, has already returned to Mainz.

The Minister of War must have informed you of the orders I have given to send to Magdeburg a choice of battalion commanders, captains, adjutants-majors, and officers who will be at your disposal; this will make you 3 to 400 officers. You will review your regiments, dismiss the incompetent officers, and put in their place those who arrive. With these changes, I hope these cohorts will be good troops. I give the order to send to each division two brigadier-generals from among those who served in the cohorts; finally, all the regiments must be assembled in such a way as to be able to exercise every day at line evolutions, to practice fire, fire at the target, & c.

I think you can place your 1st division between Magdeburg el Berlin, at Brundenburg, 2nd at Magdeburg, 3rd at Brunswick and 4th at Halberstadt; your staff must be in Magdeburg. You will have all your troops in your hand. Your divisional generals will be able to see their bodies every day, and you will be able to see your divisions several times a month. A month's stay, if the circumstances allow it, will even put your army in good organization.

I ordered that a battalion of naval workers set out from Antwerp on the 15th of February for Magdeburg. It will be until further notice attached to your park of engineering and artillery.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by M. Marquis de Lauriston.

19541. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN

Paris. February 6, 1813

My Son, I send you a copy of the letter I write to the Minister of War; comply with it on the spot. The corps of the general[489]

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Latour-Maubourg with its four divisions will be formed in Posen or Frankfurt-on-the-Oder. The three divisions commanded by General Sebastiani will meet in Magdeburg and on the Elbe. Immediately give the order that all the detachments of cavalry which will compose the four divisions of the 1st corps should march on Poseu on Frankfurt, according as you decide, and that all those who compose the three divisions of the 2nd corps walk to the Elbe. As for the Italian regiment of the Grenier division, you will place it in the light cavalry division which will suit you.

I think it is advisable to reunite the Lithuanian cavalry regiments with the regiments of Polish lancers of my Guard, and to form a brigade of which you will give the command to General Dejean. This brigade, united to the 800 men of my Guard commanded by Major Lion, could form a small division. Is there anything left of the Neapolitan cavalry? If there are no more horses, there must remain men; send them to the rear to put them back together. I ordered that Italians be brought back from depots like the French.

My Guard has here already 4000 men on horseback, 12,000 infantry, and sixty pieces of cannon. I intend to send out, from the 15th to the 20th of this month, a fine division of 12,000 men with sixty pieces of cannon and three thousand cavalry men. I wore my Guard's cavalry suit to 10,000 men.

Take all appropriate measures to activate the recruitment of the 1st and 3rd regiments of Polish lancers. General Dejean, who commands this brigade, must follow the organization with activity. We must also try to recruit the two Lithuanian regiments; it will be a resource.

By the dispositions I have taken, you see that I do not speak of the allied cavalry, which formed part of the brigades in the old organization. There are no more Bavarians, Wurtembergers, and Westphalians; my intention is that as soon as it arrives they will meet at the 2nd corps of cavalry commanded by General Sehastiani. 2,000 Bavarians, 2,000 Wurtembergers and 2,000 Westphalians must be ready to leave in the course of March. As for the Saxons, we must let them meet at their corps under the orders of General Reynier; meanwhile, they may form a brigade of 2,000 horses, of which the handsome regiment of cuirassiers will be part, and which will meet on your right. The same thing applies to the Prussians. The sixteen Polish regiments will form two divisions, each[490]

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eight regiments and two brigades. If these regiments had 500 horses, that would be 4,000 horses per division.

NAPOLEON.

PS You will see in this same letter that I write to the minister of war the formation of a 3rd corps of cavalry, which will be composed of two squadrons drawn from each of the regiments of the army of Spain and who are already in France . This third corps, composed of four divisions, will be about 18,000 men. I appointed General Grouchy to command it, and I gave divisions to Generals Kellermann and Defrance. It remains to take two generals of division and eight brigade generals, to be chosen from among those who will not be employed in the other corps.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19545. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 7th, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, write to the Duke of Castiglione that the Prussian corps is well placed in Neu-Stettin; that it must not be put on the rear of the French army, but in line, and so as to be able to march on the left of our troops; that it would be dangerous to leave on our rear a gathering thus formed.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19546. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 7th, 1813.

It is necessary to reiterate the order to the King of Spain to go to Valladolid; and General Reille to help Navarre, since the English are currently unable to do anything.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19547. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIOUL, GRANDE MASRSHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 7th, 1813.

My intention is to use a million to be distributed among the generals, colonels, officers of the Guard, who made the campaign[491]

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of the Grand Army and lost their luggage. The million will be distributed among the various individuals currently existing and who must re-equip themselves to return to the campaign. You will settle this distribution in a council which you will preside, and which will be composed of the generals Walther, Curial, Lefebvre-Desnoettes, Ornano, Michel, Colbert, and general of artillery. Included in this distribution are the 1st and 2nd Lancers, the chasseurs and grenadiers on horseback, the dragons, the artillery and all the grenadiers and chasseurs of the young and old Guard.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19548. - ORDER.

Paris, February 7, 1813

NAPOLEON, & c.

To recognize the distinguished conduct of Colonel Dubois and the 7th Cuirassier Regiment at the Battle of the Berezina, by breaking only a square of 7,000 Russians and having them put down their arms, we have decreed and decreed the following:

Colonel Dubois is appointed Brigadier General.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19549. - TO GENERL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR IN PARIS.

Paris, February 8, 1813,

Duke de Feltre, you must stop the recruitment of the Spaniards at once: I do not want any of these regiments. This is useless, especially today where the Russians have organized a way to call them. I do not think there are enough cadres to make more than one battalion, and since the depot of the Joseph Napoleon Regiment, which is at Maestricht, is 1,200 men, that is more than enough. There are 12 officers and 62 non-commissioned officers; have three companies organized. To organize these three companies will require 10 officers, 3 sergeant-majors, 3 corporals, four sergeants and 24 corporals; total, 52 officers and non-commissioned officers. Complete each of these companies with 250 men, and send out these 730 men with the 52 officers and non-commissioned officers, that will make 802 men, under the orders of a chief of French battalion, and direct them on Erfurt; there they will meet the executives, and we will train[492]

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a battalion; I do not think we can train more. This battalion will be assembled at the 4th corps and will go to Glogau; so that the Joseph-Napoleon regiment, which is five battalions, will be reduced to the war battalion and a battalion of depot. Officers and non-commissioned officers who do not enter this first battalion will go to their depot; and if there was anything with the army to make a second battalion on the account you would give me, I would decree the second battalion.

I do not want to recruit the Portuguese any more: I do not want any of these troops. Keep the 800 men you have at the depot. Have, if possible, 700 men go to Erfurt. A single battalion will be formed of all the Portuguese, and if there are officers above the battalion, they will be sent to the depot. All Portuguese regiments will therefore be reduced to a single regiment of a battalion of war and a battalion of depot, except to make a second battalion of war, if there are enough officers and non-commissioned officers returning from the Great Army; what I do not believe.

NAPOLEON
According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19550. - TO GENEAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE. MINISTER OF WAR IN PARIS.

Paris. February 8, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Feltre, I had 7,500 horses at the Grand Army on the 30th of January; in February and March, the various markets must in fact lose 3,000; which will make about 11,000 horses that I will have on April 1st. I have about 12,000 cavalry men on foot; but, as there may be diseases, and it is good to have advance, I wish you to present me a project to lead, from February 15 to February 10, 600 cuirassiers, well dressed and well armed taken from the fifteen depots of cuirassiers, 400 dragons, taken from the depots of the eight regiments which have a squadron in Hannover, and from the four which were part of the Lahoussaye division, and 1,000 men of light cavalry, taken from the depots of the regiments of light horse, chasseurs and hussars, who are part of the Grand Army; in all, 2,000 men he foot, that it will be necessary to direct on Hanover, where they will arrive in the current of March and will mount all the horses that will have been provided.

Propose me also a project to make leave to March 30[493]

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well armed and well equipped, but also on foot, 1,500 cuirassiers, 800 dragons and 1,800 men of light cavalry. By that time, we will have more positive information.

The men necessary to ride the horses supplied in May, June and July will be taken from the conscription of 1814, and there will be time to settle them.

Thus, each regiment of cuirassiers must have 250 men in France to be mounted there, since I have given them 250 horses, and each regiment of light horse, hussars or chasseurs, either of the Grande Armée or of the army. from Spain, 250 men, since I gave them 250 horses.

This makes eighty-eight regiments, which give eighty-eight squadrons or 22,000 horses, which are actually made up of the 15,000 horses demanded from the communes, 4,700 for which it has been contracted in France, and 3,000 existing at the depots.

I come, besides, to let you know that I need 2,100 cuirassiers; which, divided by 15, makes 140 men per regiment. The bottom of the deposit can not be estimated at less than 110 men; it will take 250 men to deposit more than the 250 that will be mounted there; therefore, at each depot of cuirassier regiments, 500 men must be supplied on the conscription of the four years.

On the conscription of 1814, they will be given 200 men per regiment; which, multiplied by 15, makes 3,000 men; this will only bring the regiments to a force of 800 men. You gave them, on the conscription of the four years, 180 men per regiment and 80 cohorts; that makes 260 men; so there would be nothing left in their bakery if the depots had been 250 men, but they were much below that, so out of the 10,000 men I intended to be divided between the cavalry, train and crews, take what is necessary to complete each depot of cuirassiers to 500 effective men.

The dragoons of the regiments of the army of Spain need only 250 men for the 250 horses which I have granted them, and 150 men at the depot; it will be sufficient, therefore, to complete the deposits of these regiments at 4.00 men on the conscription of the four years.

You generally have more or less to give to dragon regiments. The eight regiments which have a squadron in Hannover and the four regiments which were part of the Lahoussaye division must supply 1,200 men for Germany; that's 100 men per regiment. They will have to have 250 men to be[494]

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mounted in France, 100 to be sent on foot to Germany, and 150 men to the depot; that's 500 men. Thus the depots of the twelve regiments above must be completed to 500 men each on the conscription of the four years, as well as the cuirassiers.

All light cavalry depots in Spain must supply 250 men for those with only one squadron in France, and 500 for those who have two squadrons; it will be enough to give them 100 or 150 men for the deposit, and it will be necessary to complete them on the conscription of the four years to 350 or 400 men. But the thirty-two regiments of the Grand Army must, besides a squadron of 250 men assembled in France, send 100 men to the Grande Armée: that is 350 men, and, including the depot, it must be completed at 450. or 500 men.

So, in summary, after employing what you have drawn from the cohorts and what has been assigned to the cavalry on the conscription of the four years, take out of the 10,000 men that I have removed to the infantry for the cavalry, the train, and the crews, enough to complete the fifteen regiments of cuirassiers and carabineers, the twelve of dragons, and the thirty-two of light cavalry of the Grand Army at 500 men at the depot, all included, and the twenty-seven regiments remaining in the Spanish army at 350 or 400 men.

Present me also a plan to distribute 15,000 men, on the conscription of 1814, between the eighty-eight regiments of cavalry.

The Minister of the Administration of War will have made known to you what he asks of the military crews whose organization I have ordered; the train of artillery, I believe, requires 2,000 men; so you are currently able to distribute the 10,000 men.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19551. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 8, 1813.

Count de Cessac, I received your letter of February 6th.

The nine battalions of the train must be organized all at once. To organize a battalion of the train, caissons, horses, harnesses and men are needed; caissons and harnesses exist in[495]

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France, and the men are promptly united. I do not think, therefore, that the organization of the battalions organized in France should be delayed for that organized in Germany; we must push them head-on. In the present state of affairs in Germany everything is uncertain; in France, everything is easy and safe.

I told you that I needed, in the course of the month, a company of the 1st, 2nd and 6th battalions, to train the ambulances of the three observation corps of the Elbe, Italy and the Rhine; this is of utmost importance. Immediately after, I will need the 2nd companies of these battalions.

In the account you gave me, you do not tell me when the men will be dressed and the horses returned. I ordered the formation of a battalion for the Guard fifteen days later, and I already have a company available.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. War deposit.

19552. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 8, 1813.

Monsieur le Comte de Cessac, it appears that three markets for the supply of horses have been passed at Hanover, one with Mr. Cetto, one with Mr. Wittmann, and one with Mr. Brandes. It appears that the market of Sieur Celto has produced 116 cuirassiers and 110 light cavalry horses, and that there is nothing more to expect; that the market of Sir Wittmann produced 227 cuirassiers, 267 of dragons, 523 of light cavalry and 77 of draft; and that of Sieur Brandes, 421 cuirassiers, 85 dragons, 4,495 light cavalry and 900 draft. Thus, at the general depot of Hanover, 764 cuirassiers, 352 of dragoons, and 5.128 of light cavalry were received; in all, 6,244 riding horses and 977 draft horses. There remains to be received on the Wittmann market 1,733 horses of cuirassiers, 233 of dragons and 423 of draft, and on the market of Sieur Brandes 99 horses of light cavalry. We can not count on the Cetto market anymore. It would therefore remain to receive 1,733 cuirassiers, 233 dragons and 99 light cavalry: in all, 2,065 saddle horses and 123 draft horses. The Hanover depot would have provided a total of 8,309 saddle horses and 1,400 draft horses. It seems that the company Wiltmann offers a new supply of 1,200 horses, and that the country still offers a lot of resources. It is essential to[496]

to conclude contracts for the supply of as many horses as possible, since the Warsaw depot, which was to supply 6,000 horses, will give much less.

It results from the state of situation of the general depot at Hanover on the 31st of January, that there were 1,191 men and 2,183 horses; but all these horses without saddles and without bridles, and men without effects of clothing, so that there was nothing available. It is further apparent from the letters and reports that saddles and articles of clothing and equipment for 13 or 1800 horses and 15 or 1800 men per month may be obtained at Hanover. I would therefore like you to give the order by an express courier, who will be passing through Wesel and will proceed with all due diligence, to General Duverger to enter into contracts for the supply of saddles, bridles, coats and other items necessary for the equipment of the cavalry, so that the light cavalry at the depot should be as readily available as possible; he will take the orders of General Lauriston. You will order General Duverger to take all the clothing and equipment which is in Hanover, to equip the men and horses who are at the depot, whether or not these belong to regiments, except to keep exact states so that they can be taken into account by the different regiments. Finally you will write to General Sebastiani, whose corps must have arrived in Brunswick, to send men to Hanover to take horses. You will demand that you be made aware of the employment of the 6,000 horsepower that the Hanover depot has provided. I send you the reports you will read about, and then return to the Minister of War.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19553. - TO GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE, AT MUNSTER.

Paris, February 8, 1813.

Count Lauriston, I am getting your letter from Münster on February 5th. I can only repeat to you that it is my intention that you have your headquarters at Magdeburg on the 15th of February, and that you are seriously organizing your army there. You must not pay attention to the troubles of the Grand Duchy of Berg; the observation corps of the Rhine will provide for it. I ordered that as early as the 15th of February, a portion of your artillery should move in a straight line on Magdeburg.[497]

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You talk about the bad officers of the cohorts: I have just ordered that the majors go to the colonels, which will make you two good officers by regiment. The colonel will command the first two battalions, and the major the two others. I ordered the meeting in Magdeburg of a large number of generals, senior officers and officers of all ranks. A part will be at your disposal, and you can use it to replace the officers you will not be happy with; with these changes, your army will be beautiful.

I suppose you will have cartridges made in Magdeburg so that your troops can be fired every day and shot at the target. Take care of the training of your troops. Recommend especially the maneuvers of the bending and deployment; bend the battalions in column of attack, the first division firing, etc. The most important maneuver is that each battalion can quickly form the square without hesitation.

I have attached to your corps the whole body of cavalry commanded by General Sebastiani, see it; he must send officers to unite all his detachments, and finally to form his corps.

You will find attached copies of the letters I wrote to you these past days; I do not believe that they have left by courier, and, as I send you this one by an orderly officer, they will arrive to you more promptly.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19554. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY, COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5th, 23rd and 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS, At MAYENCE.

Paris, February 8, 1813.

Cousin, I receive your letter of February 5th. I strongly approve of the arrangements made to suppress the rebels of the Grand Duchy of Berg. My intention is that there should be no delay in the formation of the four divisions of the observation corps of the Elbe. It is necessary therefore that before the 15th of February all that belongs to this corps starts on Magdeburg, and that nothing remains in the duchy. I ordered a major, appointed by the Minister of War, to go to Frankfurt to command each provisional regiment.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[498]

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19555. - TO GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE OBSERVATION BODY OF ITALY, IN TRIESTE.

Paris. February 8, 1813.

General Bertrand, I receive your letter of January 31st.

The Minister of War of Italy must have received all the necessary orders to assemble a division composed of thirteen battalions of infantry, two batteries of artillery on foot, a company of sappers, a company of 100 sailors, a company of 100 marine workers, and finally a cavalry regiment of 1,000 horses.

The Minister of War of France has given all the orders for the formation of the three French divisions, and the cohorts have been marching for Verona, where General Vignolle will train them in regiments. The 19th regiment of chasseurs is organized, and a new regiment of hussars is formed in Florence and Turin. My intention is that on March 1st the four divisions will be reunited in Bassano, Vicenza, Verona, and the 4th division (Italian) in Brescia. The 9th Battalion of Military Crews has all its cars at Placentia; therefore, only horses are needed. The 7th *bis* of the artillery train must be in training in Verona.

Write to General Vignolle and the artillery commander, for I would like the observation corps of Italy to march from March 1st to 15th. There is still only Major General Pacthod, but there will be attached two other generals of division of the Great Army. I suppose the Minister of War has already sent you statements and everything is already in motion. A regiment of 1,000 horses has left Naples, as well as three battalions of light infantry, which will bring to sixteen battalions your Italian division, if I decide to reunite these battalions with those of the kingdom of Italy. You do not tell me if you received training from your observation corps. I suppose the 23rd line, the 8th light infantry battalion and the 13th line are already on the march.

NAPOLEON

P.S. Pull Illyrian provinces a company of bakers and furnace builders.

From the original comm. by M, General Henry Bertrand,[499]

19556. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOLT, DUKE OF VICENCE,
GRANDE SQUIRE, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 8, 1813.

My intention is that with the Guard Division, which will leave from the 15th to the 20th of February, you will send a portion of my house with my aides-de-camp and orderly officers. That will go to Spandau, where my House will be reorganized. Concur with the grand marshal for this.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19557. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN

Paris, February 8, 1813.

My Son, I receive your two letters of the 1st of February. For one, I see that you have dissolved the battalions of Texel and Scheldt. I agree with everything you have done. Only take care that the companies of the 5th battalions which you have incorporated in the 1st battalions have a number, and make known this measure to General Doucet, in Erfurt, so that it knows the number of companies that each 1st battalion, and from then on, what he has to complete. Write to the Minister of War so that he can replace the 5th Battalions cadres you placed in 1st.

I think that since then I've been fleeing a few things that are a little different from the ones you've taken, but it's all the same. The battalions of Toulon, Brest, and Rochefort are on the army; you will have seen by my last letter the destination I gave them. I see from your letter that the 1st Corps has organized three battalions, which are at present 2,400 men strong; this makes eighteen companies, which supposes one or two companies per regiment.

You will have placed at Stettin at least four artillery companies, which will make 500 men. I approve that you conduct there 1200 Westphalians, which will bring the garrison of this place to 4,200 men. If ever Stettin was in danger of being invested, the Saxon regiment Maximilian, which is in Pomerania and whose strength is 1,600 men, could be shut up; that would then make 5,800 men in Stettin, which I think is sufficient for the garrison of this place, adding 3 to 400 horses. But, in the early days of March, the Stettin garrison will receive sixteen times[500]

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700 men; that is to say 11,200 men. It will then be endowed with 14,400 men of the 1st corps; which, together with 500 men of artillery and 500 men of cavalry, will bring to 15,400 men the troops which will be united at Stettin; with the 1,000 men who are in Pomerania it will be 17,000 men, a force which will already be sufficient to garrison Stettin, and to have a good division to hold the campaign and to fortify the army. I believe that, in the course of March, the 1st corps will receive, besides that, 500 men per regiment or 8,000 men, which will bring this body to 25,000 men.

I think that the presence of Prince Eckmühl will be necessary to properly organize these thirty-two battalions. If you do not mind, give him the order to establish his headquarters at Stettin, to attend to the organization of his body and the setting up of the place, to watch the body Prussian who rallies at Neu - Stettin, and take command of Swedish Pomerania; finally, you will charge him with all the arrangements to be made in regard to this important point.

These 25,000 men, who will certainly exist at the end of March, were to form four divisions; but we could form only three; which will require the organization of a fairly large artillery, and deserve all the care of Prince Eckmühl, especially since it will always increase in the course of April and May; and, as Sweden threatens Pomerania, this corps will be well placed to respond to any attack that may be attempted.

I gathered the 2nd and the 3rd corps in linen alone under the liter of 2nd corps. You have placed the 2nd corps at Küstrin. I see that there are 2,400 men, which together with the 600 men of engineers, artillery, and cavalry, makes 3,000 men, sufficient force for Küstrin. The 3rd corps is 1,500 men; this brings the total body to 4,500 men. But this 2nd corps will receive 10,000 men; he can get back 5,000, which makes 15,000; this corps will therefore be increased to 20,000 men. He will be able to supply a garrison of 2,500 men at Küstrin, and still have 17,000 men available for the garrisons of Spandau and Berlin. The organization of the two divisions of this corps, the formation of its artillery, and all that is relative to it, require the care of a marshal. I have left you master to name whoever you like.

I see that the 4th corps has 2,000 men; but you will receive 5,000, which will bring the 4th corps to 7,000 men; which, added to the l,100 Badeners, will gather enough people to form the garrison of Glogau and the active division.[501]

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Be sure to recommend to General Doucet to send you every day a statement of the situation of the Erfurt depot. He can send an extraordinary courier to Magdeburg to join the courier who comes from Paris to even headquarters.

I think, therefore, that the Prince of Eckmühl must take care of the formation of his army corps, and have his headquarters at Stettin; that a marshal must take care of the formation of the 2nd corps and have his headquarters at Küstrin, that a general of division suffices for the 4th corps; that if Stettin were to be invested before the battalions of Erfurt had rejoined, which seems impossible to me, the Saxon regiment at Stralsund would be recalled to reinforce the garrison.

As soon as the battalions of Erfurt have reached Spandau, Küstrin must be left with only two regiments or four battalions, which will number about 2,300 men present; and, according to the circumstances, you will join the rest of the 2nd corps for the Spandau garrison, the Berlin police, or in front of Küstrin to support the vanguard.

As for the garrison of Glogau, if it were invested before the battalions of Augsburg arrived there, it would be necessary to ask a supplement of 2,000 garrison men at Saxony.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19558, - To EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN

Paris, February 8, 1813.

My son, if it happens that Prince Schwarzenberg evacuate Warsaw and move on Kalisz, it would be necessary to reinforce General Reynier's corps with all that Saxony could offer in infantry, cavalry, and artillery, so as to be able to carry his army. corps of 15,000 men to 25,000 men; which, joined to the 5th corps, which I suppose would be 15,000 men, and to the body of Prince Schwarzenberg, would make 60 to 70,000 men. By the side of the army you would have 40,000 men of the vanguard, and finally the Prussians and the Bavarians. You must put the Prussians under the orders of Marshal St. Cyr, who will reunite them with the Bavarians. All this together will make you an army of 100,000 men.

NAPOLEON,

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.[502]

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19559. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 9, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I ordered the formation of a 6th *bis* battalion to each of the regiments of the Grand Army.

My intention has not been to keep six battalions in these regiments. Here is how I want the reorganization of these regiments to be done:

The 1st battalion must be reformed in the places of the Oder; the rest of the cadres will reform in Erfurt.

The 2nd battalion will be reformed at Erfurt: it will be recruited with the 700 men who have been ordered to leave, and immediately afterwards it will proceed, as I have ordered, to Leipzig and Wittenberg, where it will receive orders from the vice-King.

I am waiting for your report to send out 4 or 500 men who will also go to Erfurt, where they will recruit the part of the battalion which will meet there. This will be immediately on the spot for the Oder forts, and by this means the 1st and 2nd battalions will be reorganized entirely.

The 3rd, 4th and 6th battalions will travel to France, where they will find a 6th *bis*. My intention is that the 6th *bis* and two of the other battalions will form two battalions, the 3rd and the 4th. The 5th will remain as a deposit.

I will send, as soon as possible, the 4 or 500 men necessary to complete the first two battalions.

I will send a good battalion, the 4th battalion, which is the 6th *bis* present, completed by officers and non-commissioned officers and 840 men, and by this means I will have three battalions at the Grande Armée.

I will keep the cadres of the 3rd battalion to receive men from the conscription of 1814, and to form temporary demi-brigades, charged with the defense of the coast.

Thus, instead of four battalions, the regiments of the Grande Armée will only have three on the Oder. Now, for these battalions, 2,500 men are needed. These 2,500 men can scarcely be supplied by the conscription of 1813 and the conscription of the four years.

If there were regiments which had kept a greater number of officers and non-commissioned officers, and who had experienced fewer losses, on the account which you would give me, we could approve[503]

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the organization of the 6th Battalion; but according to the information I have, I do not think there is much in this case.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. As I had just signed this letter, I receive the stalls of the viceroy. As a result, even including the cadres of the 6th *bis* battalions, it will be difficult to train the four battalions by regiment. Since all the regiments have two companies on the Oder, one of the 1st battalion, the other of the 5th battalion, which the viceroy has assembled at the 1st battalion instead of incorporating it, it will be four companies of 1st battalions to be reformed at Erfurt, and six of the 2nd battalions. The rest will be formed at the depot.

There will no longer be a second major attached to the regiments of the Grand Army; they will all be recalled. Destine them to command the provisional regiments or to replace the majors that will be named to the command of these same regiments. I prefer that all the second majors who are at the Grand Army, and most of whom are already, back to Mainz, go to command the depots, where they will rest, and that the best majors, taking them among those of the regiments who contribute to the formation of provisional regiments, be appointed colonels second, and sent to the regiments to command them. In addition, I have the provision made the subject of a decree.

According to your copy. Deposit of the war.

19560. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 9, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the 1st division of the young Guard will be commanded by Major General Barrois. You will order him to take command tomorrow; it will be composed of two brigades.

The 1st Brigade will be composed of two battalions of fusiliers and four battalions formed of the 2nd of voltigeurs and 2nd of tirailleurs; she will be under the orders of General Rothenburg,

The 2nd Brigade will be composed of four battalions of the 6th *bis* and two battalions of Pupilles; it will be commanded by Brigadier General Tindal.

General Barrois will have with him a general adjutant general and two deputies.[504]

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Artillery. - This division will have four artillery batteries on foot, forming thirty-two pieces of cannon, with double supply and eighteen caissons of infantry. This artillery will be commanded by a Major of the Guard,

Engineers. - A chief of the battalion of the engineers will command the engineers; he will have under his command a company of sappers with his tools, and a company of sailors of the Guard,

Administration: - This division will have a commissioner of wars, two deputies, and a company of military crews, of which six caissons will be responsible for effects of ambulance.

Cavalry. He will be attached to that division a squadron of mounted grenadiers of 250 men, a squadron of dragoons of 250 men, two squadrons of hunters of 500 men, a squadron of lancers of the 2nd regiment, of 250 men; these five squadrons will be commanded by Major Leclerc, of the Guard; each of the four regiments will have at least one squadron commander.

Two mounted artillery batteries, twelve pieces, will be attached to this column of cavalry.

125 grenadiers and 250 horses, 125 dragons and 250 horses, 250 hunters and 500 horses, 125 lancers and 250 horses of the 2nd regiment, total 625 men and 1,250 horses, will leave Paris with this division; the horses will be well harnessed and equipped and will go to Fulde, which will increase 625 men of those who are there, and will supplement to 1,250 men said column of cavalry.

If all the artillery is not ready when the division leaves, we will leave only what will be ready.

The officers and non-commissioned officers who would not be ready would join en route, either to Mayenee or Fulde, The general of artillery must for this purpose give nominative orders.

Care should be taken to have the effects of clothing removed so that all these officers and NCOs are dressed on their arrival.

The Health officers will be sufficient.

There will be a company of bakers, of sufficient strength to be able to make 24,000 rations of bread per day.

The commander of the engineers will have in his company of sappers a squad of masons to build furnaces, and in his caissons the tools necessary for this construction. Finally, the various administrative employees needed will be attached to this division.

On the 15th of this month, he will be reviewing this division in the Tuileries courtyard: all the men will be present, the caissons[505]

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ambulance and military crews will be charged; all the workers will be there.

The artillery alone, being at La Fere, will not be at this review; it will meet on the 15th, and pass to the Fere the review of General Drouot.

I will be informed if this division is ready to leave on the 16th.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19561. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 9, 1813.

It is proper that you make known to the King of Spain, in figures and quadruplicate, that I see with the greatest difficulty that he has lost two months as important as December and January, when the English were powerless to do nothing, and that he did not profit by this circumstance to pacify Navarre, Biscay, and Aragon; that he constantly asks for money; (The money is there, and it leaves without reason devastate these beautiful provinces by Mina, that I have several times ordered him to go to Valladolid, but the nonchalance of the direction of affairs in Spain It is inconceivable how, in fact, did he not maintain his communications, and how, after having read the 29th bulletin, did he not feel the need to be promptly in communication with the Commission? La France?

There is not a moment to lose; that the King goes to Valladolid, having Madrid and Valencia occupied by his left extremity.

Write to him that the lost time is irremediable; that business will go badly, so promptly it puts no more activity and motion in the direction of affairs; that it is necessary to occupy Valladolid, Salamanca and to threaten Portugal, that the English seem to strengthen themselves in Portugal, and that they seem to have the double project, or to push in Spain, or to leave the port of Lisbon for to make an expedition of 25,000 men, part English and part Spaniards, on any point of the coasts of France, during the time that the struggle will be engaged in the North; that, in order to prevent the execution of this project, it is necessary that the Spanish army should always be ready to take the offensive and threaten to attack Lisbon and conquer Portugal if the British weaken their army of 'Spain. It is therefore necessary that the King occupies Valladolid and Salamanca, and that he fulfills the triple purpose of[506]

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to keep in check the English army, to have his communications as prompt as possible with France, in order to know all that is happening, and that he uses the time when the English would do nothing to pacify Biscay and Navarre ; that this instruction must be considered as general instruction for the whole campaign; that finally, if the strength of the French armies in Spain remained idle and allowed the English masters to make expeditions on our coasts, the tranquility of France would be compromised. It must be said, therefore, that the King has very rapid and reliable communications, and that he is always in a position to take the offensive.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19562. - TO THE GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIOUL, GRANDE MARSHAL OF PARIS, PARIS.

Paris, February 9, 1813.

You will find attached a copy of the letter I am writing to the Minister of War. As he will lose two days to send it to you, give in advance all the necessary orders. Call General Barrois to let him know the mark of confidence I give him. He must have his war commissioner, his surgeons, and put everything in order.

Let me know how we could organize the two horse artillery companies. My intention would be to organize them in Mainz. Horses, clothing and recruits could be sent from here. By this means, this division of the Guard would already have forty-four guns.

Give me the state of the division of the old Guard which is to the Grand Army, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, so that I can see what would be the total force of these two divisions.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19563. - INSTRUCTION FOR CAPTAIN ATTHALN. OFFICER OF ORDINANCE OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 9, 1813.

Go on the spot for Wesel; you will stay there twenty-four hours. You will let me know the situation of the supplies and the different depots of infantry and cavalry which are in this place, as well as the situation of the new regiments which organized[507]

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the Duke of Padua. You will find out if the horses and men offered by the cities and towns are up.

Appointment from there to General Lauriston who must be in Hamburg or Hanover. In Hamburg, stay there for forty-eight hours. Let me know if the 100 horses that give the city are provided, and what is the spirit of the inhabitants.

Rendezvous from there to Hannover, where you will stay for five days, and send me the state of all the horse markets which have had connection since November; of all the horses which have been received, of the distribution which has been made of them, of the place where they are extant, and of what remains to be received; as well as the situation of the crews and the armament and clothing of all the corps.

From there, you will go to General Sebastiani, who must be in Brunswick. You will send me the situation of his cavalry corps, and let me know when he will have 2,000 horses ready to enter the line. You will stay several days to go through the cantonments of the regiments. You will let me know what remains of the army in cadres, where are the colonels, those who exist or who are absent; where are the majors and squadrons, etc .; Finally, you will send me all the information which will enable me to know the situation of the regiments which compose the corps of General Sebastiani.

Go to Magdeburg after that, and tell me everything about fortifications, artillery and supplies. I ordered that a part of the suburbs be shot down and leveled; you will ensure that these orders are executed without regard to anything. It is not a question of whether, nor of, but of, when, in the safety of a place of this importance. You will give me an account of the troops that are in the place, the ones that pass, the situation of the stores and supplies. And when you have remained sufficiently in Magdeburg and General Lauriston has arrived there, as he will write to me every day, you will be able to go to Spandau and Berlin.

Before leaving the Elbe, you will also go to the cavalry corps commanded by General Latour-Maubourg, who must be on this side. You will send to me on this corp the same observations as on that of General Sebastiani.

In Spandau, you will visit the fortifications. In Berlin, you will see General Bourcier and send me the general situation of the return. Be careful to write to me every night what you have seen. Spend the day running, and at night write to me. Artillery, engineer, troops,[508]

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supplies, fortifications, returns: I must see in your letters what I would have seen myself, if I were on the spot.

When you are at Hanover, you will send me your letters by a courier, who will deliver them to the marshal of the army, at the point of the road which will be nearest to Hanover.

I gave orders that in Magdeburg and on the Oder the woods should be cut so much for the palisading of the places as for armoring.

P. Send out your crews and your horses, because you will not come back. You will wait for further orders between Berlin, Küstrin and Magdeburg.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19564. - DECREE.

Palace of the Tuileries, February 9, 1813.

ART. 1. The positions of secretary of the portfolio and secretary-archivist of our cabinet are suppressed.

ART. 2. The service of the cabinet will be done by the two secretaries of the cabinet.

One will be more specifically in charge of the shipping and archives department and the domestic details; he will have under his command the archives office.

The other will be more specifically in charge of foreign translations and gazettes; he will have under his command the office of translations.

ART. 3. Under the secretaries of the cabinet, there will be two chief cabinet clerks, who will assist them in their service.

The appoints of the first cabinet clerks are fixed at 12,000 francs each.

ART. 4. Nothing has been changed to what has been settled previously for the organization of the topographical cabinet,

ART. 5. There will always be office service, night and day, a cabinet secretary, a senior clerk, and the director of the topographic cabinet or one of his deputies.

ART. 6. Our Grand Chamberlain is responsible for the execution of this decree, which will be communicated to the officers of the House.

According to the copy. Imperial Library.[509]

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19565. - To M. MARET, DUC OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris. February 10, 1813.

The Duke of Bassano, write to M. de Saint-Marsan by a courier that the great recruitment which is made throughout Prussia, with officers to whom the King can not trust, can only alarm us, and that I want everything to be quiet.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives,

19566. - To PRINCE LEBRUN,
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF HOLLAND, AMSTERDAM.

Paris, February 10, 1813.

I ordered that 3,000 men of provisional regiments, all Frenchmen, set out for Amsterdam, in order to give you sufficient strength to repress malevolence. You do not need orders from here to bring gunboats with French crews to Amsterdam. Speak to the maritime prefect; I write in addition to the Minister of the Navy.

Publish that I will soon go to Amsterdam to visit the Texel.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19567. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN

Paris. February 10, 1813.

My son, we must stop the recruitment of the Prussians, and be content with the troops of General Bülow as they are. Give orders everywhere accordingly.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19568. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 11, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the viceroy tells me that he does not think that the cadres of the five battalions that each regiment of the Grand Army had to send, either to Erfurt or to Augsburg, could[510]

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provide more than the training of two battalions, both as officers and non-commissioned officers.

My intention is to reform the regiments of the Grand Army to four battalions; they are now at five, and, including the 6th *bis*, it would be six battalions which will be reduced to four.

So I think we must change the number of the 6th and call it 4th, and give the order that the 3rd and 4th battalions be formed as soon as possible.

The 1st and 2nd battalions will be trained at Erfurt; the 3rd and the 4th at the depot, as well as the 5th; there will be neither 6th nor 6th *bis*.

These regiments will have enough to complete three battalions; he will therefore remain a cadre of the 4th to receive the conscription of 1814.

I think it is necessary to send a good number of officers and non-commissioned officers to all these cadres. It would be necessary to send to them as sub-lieutenants many young people coming out of the schools, and a part of the 1,000 non-commissioned officers removed from the depots. I do not approve of the destination you have given to these 1,000 non-commissioned officers; first of all, they must be sent to the regiments which receive the conscription of the different years.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19369. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 11, 1813.

The conscription of 1813 is not raised in the department of Lippe. You have raised the conscription of 1812; before raising that of 1814, it will be necessary to raise that of 1813. In the departments of Holland you have raised only the conscription of 1811; but I believe that by my decree of the 20th of January I raised that of 1812. In the 32nd military division, only the conscription of 1812 was raised; before raising the conscription of 1814, it is necessary to raise that of 1813. There is to be received from these departments the conscription of 1813, and then that of 1814. There can be no question of raising the one of the four backward years; we can only leave it in suspense. Make me a particular report which indicates where is the conscription of the departments of Holland and the 32nd military division. Were they taxes in the same proportion as France? When did the conscription of 1811 be lifted? When will we lift that of 1812, that of 1813, that of 1814?

Italy is aware of this, and I believe that the conscription of[511]

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1813 in Rome the conscription of 1813 was lifted; so it seems to me that all Italy is aware.

I decided that the portion which returned to the navy from the conscription of Holland on 1811, 1812, 1813 and 1814, would be granted to him, and that the 10,000 men who returned to him on the conscription of 1811, would also be granted to him.

As for the conscription of 100,000 men, of course, it will not provide anything for the navy.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19570. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNT DECREED,
MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 11, 1813.

I give orders to leave on the *Saint-Bernard* and *Castiglione* the 98 naval gunners who are there, and I wish you to have the crews of these two ships completed at once. If necessary, they will be provided with a French garrison of 100 men each. But my intention is not to diminish the state of arms at Venice; which would put the enemy in a position to reduce his cruises in the Adriatic, and it would be a retrograde step that could have a moral effect that I wish to prevent.

General rule: I do not wish to diminish my armaments anywhere except that I consent to arm only five ships on the Texel and eighteen ships in the Scheldt; and that at the Texel and in the Scheldt I will arm not all the bad Dutch frigates, but all the French frigates, both in the one and the other port.

After the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19571. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNT DECREED,
MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 11, 1813.

There were at the Grand Army three crews of sailors of the Guard; they suffered a lot. My intention is, of these three, to complete only one for the year and to reform the two others, one on the squadron of Brest, the other on the squadron of Toulon, with men worthy of this elite corps. These crews can be well composed, without weakening the navy.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.[512]

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19572. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNT DECREES, MINISTER OF THE MARINE, PARIS

Paris. February 11, 1813.

La Couronne, l'Audacieux, and *le Polyphème* were very little advanced on the 1st of January, 1813, and you advance them very little in the turn of 1813, since you propose to wear them only to the 6 twenty-fours the three. I want you to wear them for 10 twenty-fours, so that you can throw them all three in 1814. The ships I have at the Texel are bad; these, on the contrary, will be good; it is, therefore, a great advantage to have, without increasing expenses, good offices in bad ships. Besides, I need to give work there Amsterdam.

In Rotterdam, I will need to finish the *Piethein*, not for the need that I have of this ship, but in order to have the hold for another vessel and to give work in Rotterdam.

The three frigates must also be pushed to Rotterdam, instead of the 8 twenty-fours, and the 12 twenty-four, so that they may all be put into the water in 1814. This increase of work will be useful to Holland.

For Antwerp, I have nothing to observe: I will have three vessels with three decks, one of 80 and two of 74, ready to be launched in 1814; but it must be understood that the armament of all these vessels must be ready.

I have nothing to say for Dunkerque and Le Havre.

I also approve the project for Cherbourg: two ships will be launched and three will be pushed in order to be launched in 1814. It would be necessary that the frame of the *Havre*, instead of being 74, was 80 guns .

In Brest, we will put the *Orion* in harbor. I approve what you propose.

I also approve the work for Lorient, as well as that of Nantes, Rochefort, Bordeaux and Bayonne. I approve the work of Toulon, that of Genoa, Livorno and Cività-Vecchia.

As for Venice, it is necessary that the work there be as considerable as in 1812, by the need to leave money in Venice, but I approve that nothing is launched, so that the work is spread over the four ships they three frigates under construction.

It follows from all this that my intention is that the works of Holland and Venice should be increased. Submit me the project for the next campaign armament.[513]

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We must keep the two Danish crews and carry the squadron of the Scheldt to eighteen vessels. This squadron fixes much of England's attention. The Americans would hardly see that we disarmed part of it; they believe that the squadron, generally armed with good sailors, because they believe in many men of the North, of whom they do much more than men of the South.

As for Brest, Toulon and Cherbourg, you have to arm as much as you can.

Report to me on the gunboats in the Zuiderzee, the Scheldt and the harbor of Cherbourg, in defense of these three important points. Have as few gunboats as possible in Boulogne, but as much as possible in Cherbourg, because it contributes to the defense of the harbor and gives men available for everything.

You will put six ships of the Scheldt squadron under the orders of two vice-admirals, and you will inform them that they must leave during the month of October to fulfill a mission, and that if they had not left before November, these squadrons will have to winter in Vlissingen.

Let me know the number of ships to be armed this year on the ocean and the Mediterranean, as well as the necessary supplement to even budget to meet this increase the work. I desire that nothing can give rise to the opinion in the navy that she is abandoned, and the circumstances of my finances are not such that the navy should be aware of them in any way.

It will be necessary to create new crews or increase the number of existing ones, in order to use the conscription of 1814.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19573. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN

Paris. February 11, 1813.

My son, there are 500 mounted gendarmes at Magdeburg; bring them to Berlin, where they will be useful for the police of this great city.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.[514]

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19574. - TO THE GENERAL COUNTY OF LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE BODY OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE IN HAMBURG.

Paris. February 11, 1813.

Count Laurislon, I receive your letters from Osnabrück from February 6th to 7th. I have told you that your four divisions of the observation corps of the Elbe should meet immediately at Magdeburg, and that you should seriously deal with all that is relative to the organization of these four divisions, by putting in all the places of vacant officers the officers who arrive at Magdeburg, by dismissing the bad officers and replacing them with good ones; By having these regiments fired daily and fired at the target, teach them especially to form the battalion square, battalion by battalion, with the greatest promptitude, so that they can against the cavalry.

The minister of the administration of war gives the most positive orders for the exhaustion of the resources of the country, in order to procure saddles and clothing. The cavalry who have arrived on the Elbe must have furnished men.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston,

19575. - TO GENERAL COUNT FONTANELLI,
MINISTER OF WAR AND NAVY OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, MILAN.

Paris. February 11, 1813.

Take off four gunboats or light vessels to go to Corfu and park in the port; they will help with communications with France and supply the place.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire '

19576. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 13, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I am sending you the format which I think I should give to the 1st and 2nd Rhine Observation Corps. Have the states of these bodies drawn up accordingly.

You will make known to me the precise time when each regiment will be assembled at Mayence, and when these corps will have their artillery, their sappers and their engineers officers. You will put all Division and Brigade Generals and Commandant Warrant Officers there.

NAPOLEON[515]

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FORMATION OF THE 1st RHINE OBSERVATION CORPS.

1st division, - General Souham: 2 battalions of the 6th provisional regiment, 2 of the 10th, 2 of the 14th, 2 of the 17th, 2 of the 21st, 2 of the 24th, 4 of the 22nd line; total, 16 battalions.

2nd division, - General Girard or General Ricard (the first arrived): 2 battalions of the 2nd provisional regiment, 2 of the 29th light, 4 of the 145th of line, 4 of the 136th, 4 of the 138th; total, 16 battalions.

3rd division. - General Brenier: 2 battalions of the 4th provisional regiment, 4 of the 139th line, 4 of the 140th, 4 of the 141st; total, 14 battalions.

4th division. - General Dubreton, General Ricard or General Girard: 2 battalions of the 9th light, 4 of the 142nd line, 4 of the 144th, 2 of the 18th provisional regiment, 2 of the 19th; total, 14 battalions.

Recapitulation: 1st division, 16 battalions; 2nd division, 16; 3rd division, 14; 4th division, 14; total, 60 battalions.

FORMATION OF THE 2nd RHINE OBSERVATION CORPS,

1st division. - General Compans: 2 battalions of the 20th provisional, 2 of the 25th, 2 said 32nd light, 10 battalions of the navy; total, 16 battalions.

2nd division. - General Bonet: 4 battalions of the 37th light, 10 battalions of the navy; total, 14 battalions.

3rd division. - General Girard, General Dubreton, Ricard or Friederichs: 2 battalions of the 11th provisional, 2 of the 13th, 2 of the 16th, 2 of the 23rd light, 2 of the 44th of the line, 2 of the 121st; total, 12 battalions.

4th division. - General Dubreton, Ricard or Friederichs: 2 battalions of the 15th of the line, 2 of the 36th, 2 of the 51st, 2 of the 55th, 2 of the 70th, 2 of the 113th, 2 of the 27th provisional, 2 of the 28th; total, 16 battalions.

Recapitulation: 1st division, 16 battalions; 2nd division, 14; 3rd division, 12; 4th division, 16; total, 58 battalions.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19577 - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN POSEN

Paris, February 13, 1813.

My Son, I have already made known to you the necessity of bringing together in your hand, independently of the 35th division, of which you will form two divisions, the 31st division, which, with the reservation which you have formed at Posen, will bring you to 40,000 men of fresh and available troops and about sixty pieces of cannon. I reiterate these[516]

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orders to the Duke of Castiglione not to retain, under various pretexts, what belongs to the 31st Division, and that everything be sent to you.

You can direct the two Westphalian regiments on Stettin, giving notice to the King to have them complete on this point to 3,000 men; which, joined to the 1,600 men of the Saxon Maximilian regiment and to the 15 to 16,000 men to be carried by the 1st corps, would put in the hands of the Prince of Eckruuhl, at Stettin, 20,000 men, with whom he would keep Swedish Pomerania, mouths of the Oder, Stettin and the Oder Line to Küstrin. In case of an event, I think the Stettin garrison could be increased to 6,000 infantry, 500 cavalry, and 5 or 600 artillery men, without understanding the hospitals. Repeat the orders so that this place is fully stocked.

The 2nd Corps, which will receive 14, at 15,000 men, may very well be garrisoned at Küstrin, Spandau, and Berlin, and still have an observation division to defend the Oder and support you.

Finally, the 4th corps, the Bavarians and some Saxons, if necessary, will be sufficient for Glogau.

I suppose then that, on March, the state of things will be the following: your observation corps at Posen or on the Oder, strong of the 31st, 35th and 36th divisions, plus the reserve of the 10,000 men of the Guard , Bavarians, etc., that you have gathered. I suppose that you will also have received, independently of the Italian regiment, 1,000 men of the Guard and 3,000 of the corps which General Latour-Maubourg must command; which will make you 6,000 men of cavalry.

Prince Eckmühl will be in Stettin and command Pomerania and the Oder Line to Küstrin. The 2nd corps will be in Küstrin, Spandau and Berlin. One and the other could have a division to support you; which, joined to the corps of General Reynier, to that of Prince Poniatowski, and to Prince Schwarzenberg, if he keeps his communications with you, will keep you in a reasonable position; especially since at that time General Lauriston must have his 1st division at Brandenburg, his 2nd at Magdeburg, his 3rd at Brunswick and his 4th at Halberstadt. He will have to spend some time in this position to receive his 100 pieces of cannon, his crews and complete his organization. I suppose you did not fail to send many officers to Magdeburg, as I told you, so that General Lauriston could place them in his[517]

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Finally, at the same time, the 1st observation corps of the Rhine, with 60 battalions, will have crossed the Rhine and will reach the Elbe.

I think that irrespective of the stores I ordered at Spandau and Küstrin, one must order a similar one to Stellin.

It seems to me that as for the four divisions of Latour-Maubourg, it is understood that their deposits will be able to go up on the Elbe where they are, but that all they will have available is to go to the Oder, and that General Latour will form his four divisions there. It should not be long before you produce 3,000 horsepower: the Oder and the Wartha going to thaw, it will put you in a position to cover you well.

It seems that the projects of the allies would be to attack the island of Rügen by an expedition of 6,000 Swedes, who would hope to lodge there, while the Swedes would attack Norway. Give notice of this to General Morand and Prince Eckmühl.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19578. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT OF LAURISTON, COMMANDER OF THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE, HAMBOURG.

Paris. February 13, 1813,

Count Lauriston, I receive your letter of February 7th.

I am extremely unhappy that the Hamburg Regiments are not yet organized. I can only repeat what I have already told you several times: it is to set your four divisions in motion on Magdeburg. If, because of the offices of the war, the three regiments composed of the cohorts of Hamburg are not formed, direct the cohorts on Magdeburg and you will train them yourself. If we wanted to keep all the odds, not a cohort would be started. I can only repeat the order to draw all your troops to Magdeburg, without any regard for all the secondary considerations. Before the season allows the enemy to make some attempts on these odds, other troops will have arrived.

I ordered the Duke of Valmy to drive your 4th division. Your artillery is moving from Metz and Mainz in this month. Thus it is necessary that in the course of March you should be able to march on Berlin and assist the Viceroy.

Give orders everywhere; activate your movements and focus[518]

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all your troops between Brunswick, Magdeburg, Halberstadt and Brandenburg.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19579. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY,
COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5th, 25th and 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS.
At MAYENCE.

Paris February 13, 1813

My Cousin, I have made known to you my intentions for the observation corps of the Elbe.

The 1st Rhine Observation Corps already has in Frankfurt its 1st division, with 16 battalions. All this first division must be united at Hanau; the 2nd and 3rd are to meet at Frankfort in the first days of March.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke de Valmy,

19580. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUC OF VALMY,
SUPERIOR COMMANDER OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS,
At MAYENCE.

Paris, February 13, 1813.

Cousin, I receive your letter of February 9th. I told you that it was necessary to send from the Grand Duchy of Berg all that belonged to the observation corps of the Elbe; this observation corp is composed in accordance with the attached state.

The 4th Division, commanded by General Rocharnbeau, is composed, as you will see by this state, of the 135th, which arrives at Mayence on the 18th of February; from the 14th, which arrives on the 14th, and from the 150th, which arrives on the 12th. It is proper that, as soon as the 135th arrives and is formed, you send him to Frankfurt, where you will also meet the 149th and the 150th, I suppose that General Rochambeau, the Adjutant Commander, and the two Brigadier Generals will be there; so that, on the 20th of February, this division could move from Frankfurt to Magdeburg. Let me know what is the situation of this division.

NAPOLEON.

STATE OF THE OBSERVATION CORP OF THE ELBE.

1st division, General House: 151st, 152nd and 153rd of line. This division will meet in Magdeburg.[519]

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2nd division, General Puthnd: 146th, 147th and 148th of line. This division must go to Magdeburg.

3rd division, General Lagrange: 134th of line, 8th foreign, 154th and 155th of line. This division is to meet in Magdeburg.

4th division, General Rochambeuu: 135th, 149th and 150th of line. This division is to meet in Frankfurt.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Valmy.

19581. - SPEECH OF THE EMPEHECH, AT THE OPENING OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY.

Tuileries Palace. February 14, 1813.

The deputies of the departments in the Legislative Body, the war rekindled in the north of Europe offered a favorable occasion for the plans of the English on the peninsula. They made great efforts: all their hopes were disappointed. Their army failed before the citadel of Burgos, and had, after having suffered great losses, evacuated the territory of all Spain.

I myself entered Russia. The French arms have been constantly victorious in the fields of Ostrovno, Polotsk, Mohilef, Smolensk, Moskva, Malo-Yaroslavetz. Nowhere have the Russian armies been able to stand before our eagles: Moscow has fallen into our hands. power.

When the barriers of Russia were forced and the powerlessness of its arms recognized, a swarm of Tartars turned their parricidal hands against the most beautiful provinces of this vast empire, which they had been called upon to defend. In a few weeks, in spite of the tears and despair of the unfortunate Muscovites, they have burned more than four thousand of their most beautiful villages, more than fifty of their most beautiful cities, thus appeasing their old hatred, and under the pretext of delaying our walk around us in a desert. We have triumphed over all these obstacles; the very conflagration of Moscow, where, in four days, they have annihilated the fruit of the labors and savings of forty generations, had changed nothing in the prosperous state of my affairs. But the excessive rigor and premature winter made my army suffer a terrible calamity. In a few nights I have seen everything changed. I made big losses; they would have broken my soul if, under these great circumstances, I had to be open to other feelings than to the interest, the glory and the future of my people:

At the sight of the evils that have weighed on us, the joy of England has[520]

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was great, his hopes had no bounds. She offered our finest provinces as a reward for treason; it put the condition of peace at the destruction of this beautiful empire; it was under other pretensions to proclaim a perpetual war.

The energy of my people, in these great circumstances, their attachment to the integrity of the Empire, the love they have shown me, have dispelled all these fancies and brought back our enemies to a more just feeling of things. .

The misfortunes produced by the severity of the frosts have brought out in all their extent the greatness and solidity of this Empire, founded on the efforts and love of 50 millions of citizens, and on the territorial resources of the pines of the most beautiful parts of the world. world.

It is with great satisfaction that we have seen our people of the kingdom of Italy, those of the old Holland and the united departments, rival the ancient French, and feel that there is nothing for them. hope, future, and good in the consolidation and triumph of the great Empire.

The agents of England spread among all our neighbors the spirit of revolt against the sovereigns. England would like to see the whole continent in the grip of civil war and all the fury of anarchy; but Providence has appointed it to be the first victim of anarchy and civil war.

I signed a concordat directly with the Pope, which ends all the differences which had unfortunately been raised in the Church. The French dynasty reigns and reigns in Spain. I am satisfied with the conduct of my allies; I will not give up any; I will maintain the integrity of their states. The Busses will return to their hideous climate.

I desire peace; it is necessary to the world. Four times since the rupture that followed the Treaty of Amiens, I have proposed it in solemn steps. I will never do anything but an honorable peace, in conformity with the interests and grandeur of my empire. My policy is not mysterious; I made known the sacrifices I could make.

As long as this maritime war lasts, my people must be ready for every kind of sacrifice; for a bad peace would make us lose everything, even hope, and even the prosperity of our nephews would be compromised.

America has used arms to enforce the sovereignty of its flag. The wishes of the world accompany him in that glorious struggle. If she ends it by forcing the enemies of the[521]

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continent to recognize the principle that the flag covers the goods and the crew, and that neutrals should not be subjected to blockades on paper, all in accordance with the stipulations of the Treaty of Utrecht, America has deserved of all peoples. Posterity will say that the old world had lost its rights and that the new has reconquered them.

My Minister of the Interior will inform you, in the statement of the situation of the Empire, the prosperous state of agriculture, manufacturing, and our internal commerce, as well as the ever-increasing growth of our economy. population. In no century has agriculture and manufactures been in France to a greater degree of prosperity.

I need great resources to meet all the expenses required by the circumstances; but, by different measures which my Minister of Finance will propose to you, I should not impose any new burden on my people.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of February 15, 1813.

19582. - IN GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 14, 1813.

I can see with difficulty that we are not seeking the ministry to comply with my intentions. I am not happy with the report of the artillery office.

I want, because it is in accordance with the principles of the artillery, that all the batteries come out of France organized, that is to say that a battery of eight pieces of gun leaves with its carriages, its forge and the less a complete supply. The convoys must be sixty wagons, so you can join line or two batteries. I also want there to be in each convoy six caissons of infantry. In glancing at the state, I can not execute my orders.

I do not care how they leave Metz and Strasbourg, who are in France; but what matters to me is how they will leave Mainz and Wesel: the slightest movement of the portion that is gone, we are no longer united. It's a mistake your office makes to keep the batteries out,

I do not see why you only wear sixty pieces in the corps of the Elbe; it seems to me that it's ninety-two that he has to[522]

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to have there. I see by the state that forty-four pieces leave Mainz and sixteen pieces or two Wesel batteries. Wesel's batteries leave in order, since there are six pieces, two howitzers, nine caissons of six, and four howitzers; I have nothing to say to these two convoys; let them go on February 25 or 26, sooner if possible, and direct them to Magdeburg. But the 1st, 2nd and 4th convoys leaving Metz are useless, as well as that of Strasburg: let all this go to Mainz, and let them leave Mainz: 1st convoy, one or two batteries of 6; That is, the reserve batteries, once you have gone off with a simple supply, I do not mind if the double supply goes off as you will hear, but, for example, to the convoy that would leave Mainz, I see only twelve caissons of 12, it has twelve pieces, it would require thirty-six caissons, I see only four caissons for four howitzers, it would take twelve.

I do not see with pleasure that you begin to leave the reserve batteries from Mainz; I'd rather you fought off those of 6. Arrange me accordingly.

Thus, from the 5th to the 15th of March, the sixty guns will have arrived at Magdeburg, which is a real result; as on March 3, four foot batteries will have arrived at the 1st Rhine Observation Corps.

The 2nd and 3rd divisions of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps are now to be organized; one and the other will be in Frankfurt around March 15th. If it were possible, I would have for March 15 all the rest of the batteries, with a simple supply, if necessary; the double supply would follow.

It remains for me to know the means of organizing some mounted batteries for these corps and for the cavalry.

Let me also know what is relative to the observation corps of Italy, and when I can count on the crew being able to leave Verona.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19583. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNT DECIES, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS,

Paris, February 14, 1813.

Count Decres, I have no doubt that your budget of $ 171 million is correct. I subtract the 2 million 146, 000 francs for the arming of the ships of Antwerp and the million 194,000 francs[523]

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for artillery of the same chapter; which will make a reduction of over 3 million. Your budget will be $ 167 million. I much prefer to make this expense and not to make retrograde steps to the navy, either in men, in equipment, or in armament.

I have just taken from the navy 12,000 men; but it seems to me proper to replace them on the conscription of 1814; otherwise it would be an irreparable loss for the navy.

Give the Minister of Finance your budget, which has been set at 167 millions.

Decrease on all the chapters, so as to make only a first total of 160 millions, and to form another 7 millions a fund of reserve, which you will have according to the circumstances, as you will hear, and which will be placed in even budget. Give, by means of this, a great activity to the works in Holland; continue the same activity to those of Venice, except that no vessel will be placed in the water, and increase my squadrons of the Ocean as much as possible.

This year I will have victories and peace, and from then on I will have nothing to reform on the navy. But if my plans were disappointed and I suffered setbacks, then it was not 10 million, but the 80,000 men on board the squadrons should be used for the defense of the state. We are still far from being there.

I can only recommend you again to keep all my ships out. I even wish that it is actually arranged to make believe the departure of an expedition from Toulon, so that the squadron of Brest is preparing to go on a cruise, and that of the Scheldt to go to America, with weapons and some passing troops. I leave it to you to choose the means which can best accredit these projects, to have the commanders of the squadrons believe them first of all, and then to the enemy; all these will be real diversions.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. pure M. Beaulieu.

19584. - TO GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE OF ROVIGO,
MINISTER OF GENERAL POLICE, PARIS.

Paris. February 15, 1813.

I can hardly see a report from the Conseil d'Etat Dubois, which you send me. Less police will talk about the case of October 23 (1)

1) The Malet Affair.[524]

the better. Nobody serves the Pasquier State Councilor near me: by accusing people of doing things, they are given too much importance. I want the police to no longer take the march with me, and especially do not talk about the 23, since I wanted to forget it.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19585. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MESERITZ.

Paris. February 15, 1813.

My son, I have long wondered where was a squadron and the Grand Duchy of Berg, numbering 221 men; I hear he's in Brunswick. This squadron, which is in good condition, would be more useful to the army; bring him to the Oder and join him to the 1st and 3rd Guards Lancer Brigade.

I also think that you must use General Latour-Maubourg's cavalry corps; by uniting one company per regiment, this must give you at least 3,000 men.

The King of Saxony promises me 7,000 men and 2,000 horses on the 1st of March. It would be very important that this join the Saxon contingent; you could then remove the Durutte division, which you would attach to the vanguard. If you had the Durutte division, the 35th, the 36th, and the 31st division, with what you have assembled, that would be an army beginning. The 8,000 Saxons would maintain the corps of General Reynier at 15,000 men.

Let me know what General Poniatowski has in cavalry, infantry, artillery.

Reiterate the order to General Schwarzenberg to press on you not to let your communications with you.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19586. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MESERITZ.

Paris, February 15, 1813.

My son, I have just seen with the greatest surprise the markets that Intendant General Dumas has passed. Would he have lost his head? First, he makes me pay 2 million to supply the three places of the Oder. Regardless of the excessive prices he grants,[525]

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it increases the quantities needed. He pays 30 oats under a bushel; it is double what it is worth; wheat, 16 francs, etc. I can not and I do not mean to throw money in this way; there is madness in these prices.

The Prussians must continue to provide for the laborer; if they ceased, it would be necessary to make requisitions, and then Prussia would put us in the case of taking possession of the country.

General Dumas has also passed some contracts by which he spends 3 francs per soldier on hospitals. You feel that it is impossible to accustom the people of Prussia to such bargains; the finances of any country could not suffice.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S.A.I. The Duchess of Leuchteuberg.

19587. - AT GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 16, 1813.

I answer your letter of February 16th (artillery office). I see there that the artillery of the Corps of the Elbe and that of the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine will be organized and harnessed. I gave the order that the Guard has 300 horses and organizes its one hundred and twenty pieces. All that is relative to the observation corps of Italy is in order; it remains to be filled the 2nd corps of the Rhine.

You have only 1,500 horses available, and they can only bring 300 wagons; it would take another 1,600 horses to complete the artillery of the 2nd Rhine Corps. I think that you have to buy them and that you will have enough men of the train to harness them, and therefore the crews of the corps of the Elbe, the two corps of observation of the Rhine, the observation corps of Italy and the Imperial Guard, which makes five to six hundred pieces of cannon, were not insured.

It remains to be filled with the artillery which is organized in Germany. You have in Germany, 1st 120 wagons, which the corps of the Elbe will yield, and which are at Magdeburg; 2nd the material that exists at the 11th corps or avant-garde corp; 3rd the equipment that exists for the Guard and for the 1st, 2nd and 4th corps; Fourthly, the material which has already been drawn from the Oder and Magdeburg places, which is done at Kussrin, and finally what remains to be sent from France.

It is absolutely necessary to give up the wrinkle of putting 1,200 horses from the Elbe to the Rhine; this was a very bad success last year, and all[526]

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these economy views ruin the train. It must therefore be sent by military transport to Magdeburg. But the formation of the convoys, the day they must leave and their destination are objects of the highest importance, and under the present circumstances I can not allow the roads of Germany to be encumbered with artillery begins to become very precious to me. It is necessary to have these convoys prepared at Metz, Mainz, Strasbourg, and Wesel; let me know at what time all this will be ready, and, finally, that you put before me the real needs.

The artillery of the 11th corps or avant-garde is of primary necessity.

General Sorbier is right to organize some batteries of the Guard in Berlin; but, as all the artillery of the Guard must leave the Fere, organized at one hundred and twenty pieces, General Sorbier could give the army this material of Berlin. Put me on a column the needs of the vanguard, the needs of the light artillery of the avant-garde cavalry. Let me know what is in the 11th Corps in Berlin, and what you have already sent to Magdeburg. I think it must be more than enough for the 11th Corps and for the four horse batteries of the two Cavalry Corps.

It remains to deal with the needs of the 1st, 2nd and 4th corps. Let me know the necessary for these three corps, dividing it by first half, second half. Only then will I be able to determine the day when the military transports will have to take the convoys to Strasbourg and Mainz, specifying the route they must take and the day they must arrive at Magdeburg. As for the lack of funds of General Sorbier, send him some.

Regardless of all these artillery crews, keep in mind that I need to reorganize the horse artillery. Thus, I first need four horse-drawn artillery batteries for corps composed of squadrons of the Spanish army; it seems to me that I still have only twelve horse-drawn artillery batteries, and, as I wish to have, for the next campaign, the same number of artillery on horseback as that which existed with the old army, it will be still some batteries to be reorganized.

I think that the first half of artillery for the 1st, 2nd and 4th corps will be sufficient, because I do not want the 1st corps to have more than thirty well organized and well organized battalions this year; which will only be two divisions instead of four, which I supposed. It is the same for the 2nd and for the 4th corps. This must make a considerable reduction in the crew.

By my letter of 27 January, I decided that the Grande Armée[527]

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at first there would be one hundred and thirty-eight guns, namely: the 1st corps, four batteries on foot, forty-six guns; the 2nd as much, the 4th as much. I think that the artillery of the 4th corps could be reduced, and carried to only twenty-two pieces, instead of forty-six; which would make a reduction of twenty-four, and, instead of one hundred and thirty-eight, would make no more than one hundred and fourteen pieces, independently of the 11th corps, Danzig, and the Durutte division.

I had also supposed that the 1st, 2nd, and 4th corps would double; which would make a hundred and thirty-eight pieces which I foresee today to be able to postpone to July. Thus, if the need to send 1,000 wagons to the Grande Armée comes from the calculation made on these guns, first requested for the 1st, 2nd and 4th corps, as there are 162 that can be postponed, it would be 586 wagons, that is to say what you propose to send to the Grande Armée, which could be postponed. But a general state of artillery now becomes necessary to me; bring all the elements together and put them in front of me.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19588. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 16, 1813.

It follows from your report that there are only 400,000 kilograms of powder in the four places of the Oder, including Magdeburg. So there would be 56,000 in Stettin, plus 25,000 that were shipped from Magdeburg; total, 81,000 at Stettin; which would be little. There would be 65,000 in Küstrin, which is not enough, and 61,000 in Glogau.

I think that 200,000 kilograms should be sent to Magdeburg, and 100 kilograms to the Oder places at once. Make me a project of distribution of these 100,000 kilograms, according to the urgency of the needs, Understand also in this distribution Spandau.

Let me know the necessary, the existing and the missing in each of these places; this work seems to me very urgent.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[528]

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19589.-TO THE MOLLIEN COUNT, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 16, 1813.

Count Mollien, the budget of the Grand Army for 1812 was 60 millions for the ministry of war, and 27 millions for the ministry of the administration of war, total 87 millions. I am justified in thinking that there has been an economy of 45 millions, of which we must remove the pearl of the treasure of 10 millions; it would therefore remain a saving of 30 to 35 million in favor of the state budget. It is urgent to have positive information about it. Count Daru has some of them, that he should communicate to you, because there are things you need to know. He forbid me to see the paymaster of the army arrive at Paris, in order to regulate all that concerns the year 1812.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.

19390. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 17, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, leaked to the Prince of Moskva that he commands the 1st observation corps of the Rhine; that he, therefore, had to assemble his staff at Fraucfort-on-the-Main, without, however, bringing back anything he would have left to the Grand Army. Make him aware of the organization of his army corps, and work with him to form his staff; to choose a good chief of staff. It will be necessary that the prince be of his person returned to Frankfurt about the 10 of March.

The duke of Raguse will command the 2nd observation corps of the Rhine.

Also let him know the organization of his corps, and work with him to organize his staff. That he directs all his crews and his administration on Frankfurt, where, it will be necessary that it is returned from the 15th to the 20th of March.

Thus the four corps of observation will be under the command, that of the Elbe, of General Lauriston; those of the Rhine, the 1st under the Prince of Moskva, the 2nd under the Duke of Ragusa, and the corps of Italy, under General Bertrand.

Introduce me an officer to command in the Illyrian provinces.

I also need to have all the organization of these two corps,[529]

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both the staffs and the divisions, with the time when all this will be reunited, with all that depends on engineers and artillery.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19591. - TO THE GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 17, 1813.

Count de Cessac, it is my intention that each division of the observation corps should have six ambulance boxes, that these six boxes should be loaded with at least six thousand and that they should carry lint, bandages, etc. to heal at least 3,000 wounds. Then you have to organize ambulance supplies in Magdeburg. Make me a general service project for the four observation corps and the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 11th corps of the Grande Armée.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19592. - DECISION.

Paris, February 17, 1813.

The Minister of Finance asks the Emperor that the personnel of the treasure crews of the army be formed among the conscripts of fresh levy.	His Majesty refused to grant conscripts, even for his own crews.

From the original. Finance Archives.

19593. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 18, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the 200 sub-lieutenants of Saint-Cyr who were sent to the twenty-two: cohort regiments must not prevent the use of the 100 corporals whom I sent to be second lieutenants. These 100 corporals, all having at least ten years of service, have what these young people do not have, and this mixture will be very beneficial to the service.

As for the troops of the navy, he intended to send some sub-lieutenants of Saint-Cyr; this body, which is composed of old soldiers, all educated, needs young officers, and not old corporals.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy, Depot of War.[530]

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19594. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS

Paris, February 18, 1813

All the regiments which are at Magdeburg, formed of the cohorts, lack the effects of encampment. It is urgent to provide them, as well as to the two observation corps of the Rhine and the corps of Italy,

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19595. - NOTE FOR M BARBIER,
LIBRARY OF THE EMPEROR, PARIS.

Paris, February 18, 1813

I do not need you to form a new travel library; it is only necessary to prepare four cases for in-12 and two for in-18. Some time before my departure, I will be given the list of books of this format that I have in my library, and I will indicate the volumes that will be put in the boxes.

These volumes will be successively exchanged for others of my library, and all without it being necessary to make any expenses.

From the original comm. by Mr. Louis Barbier.

19596. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, February 20, 1813

Count Lauriston, the Viceroy carried his headquarters to the Oder. I am very sorry for the delay that the corps belonging to the 31st division have put from Magdeburg, because it is very necessary that the viceroy has in hand this 31st division. He also tells me you have a division in Brandenburg. I think that the division formed by the Dutch regiments should not be united at Brandenburg; it is a division composed of French regiments that must be put in it. This division will have to have its artillery as soon as possible.

When, without disorganizing the corps and without forming provisional regiments, but by uniting 200 squadrons of men or companies of 100 men of the same regiment, you may assemble some cavalry, it would be very important to do so,[531]

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and to have thus 2,000 men of cavalry at Brandenburg with this division.

Bring the Westphalian division to Havelberg: it will be there within reach of Berlin, Stettin and Hamburg. I believe that the King already has two regiments ready for this division. The 9th Regiment has long been in Magdeburg. If you can bring together the three Westphalian regiments and 1,000 Westphalian horses with a battery of cannon, that would be a useful thing.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19597. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, February 20, 1813.

General Lauriston, you will find in Magdeburg many staff officers, many senior artillery officers, many general officers who are unemployed. You may take the number necessary to complete all your divisions at the rate of two Brigadier Generals, an Adjutant Commander, and several deputies. you will correspond to this effect with the Viceroy. You can also take what you want from officers and administrative staff in what is left of the army.

I have given to each regiment formed of cohorts: 1o 16 francs per man, coming from what had been retained on the mass of linen and shoes; 2o line pair of shoes for gratification; 20,000 francs per regiment. You can let them know, have their pair of shoes delivered by man, at the rate of 2,500 pairs per regiment; give them an account of the 20,000 francs, so that they get all the little things they may need, and make the soldiers pay for the 16 francs, so that they can buy another pair of shoes, so as to have three pairs insured, and complete their bag. It is necessary that they have their copper fittings, with the number of their regiment, the distinctions of voltigeurs and grenadiers, and finally all that may give them the appearance of old troops.

The artillery leaves from Wesel and Mainz. At the end of March, I hope you will have your four-twenty twelve pieces.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.[532]

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19598. - A FRÉDÉRIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, AT STUTTGART.
Paris, February 20, 1813.

Brother, your Majesty's letter, dated the 8th of this month, has been given to me by his Minister of State and Cabinet, the Comte de Zeppelin. I read it with pleasure. What it expresses carries with it the conviction and could only confirm me in the opinion I have always conceived of your Majesty's person. He can be sure that my arrangements for him and his home will always be the same. I am referring to what I told Count Zeppelin about what motivated his trip. Your Majesty must be persuaded of what he will say to me on my behalf, especially when he speaks to him of my esteem and my feelings for her.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.

19599. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 21, 1813.

The two propositions I read in your report of February 17th, 1o recruit the gendarmerie with men drawn from cohort regiments; 2. To supply the gendarmerie with the horses required in the departments, are equally unbecoming, and I do not understand how you can have admitted them. On the contrary, it is the gendarmerie that I want to draw all that is necessary for the army. As for the recruitment of the gendarmerie, we must give a new activity to the instruction of student-gendarmes.

NAPOLEON.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19600. - GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 21, 1813.

I see, by the state of the powders, that there is at Mainz only 71,000 kilograms of powder. Order that it be directed from the inside 30,000,000 kilograms of powder, so that there is always in a place like Mainz 3 to 400,000 kilograms of powder.

I see that there are 172,000 kilograms of powder in Strasbourg and 221,000 kilograms in Wesel. Direct points from inside[533]

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powders, so as to complete at 400,000 kilograms what is in each of these places.

NAPOLEON.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19601. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE,
MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Paris, February 21, 1813,

I do not know who Colonel Wittenburg is, which you are referring to in your letter of the 19th. Be careful to let him come to Paris.

No Russian prisoner should be in places like Metz, Mainz, Strasbourg or Wesel; they must be placed in small towns, out of communications, and not in a place like Mayence, where they would be able to observe all the movements that would be made in France.

NAPOLEON.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19602, - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS

Paris, February 21, 1813.

Monsieur le Comte de Cessac, the Duke de Valmy writes me that there are no swordbelts in Mainz to give to the grenadiers regiments formed of cohorts; that there are no pots, no cans, no shoes, no shirts, and that the few shoes at Wesel were extremely bad.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19603. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS

Paris, February 21, 1813,

Count de Cessac, I receive your report of February 21st.

I approve that you drop an inch, and only for the departments that have asked you, the size of the horses from the requisition of the 15,000. I also approve that you accept horses that are only sixty months old in the next grasses; finally you can accept mares in a greater proportion.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[534]

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19604. - TO PRINCE CAMILLE BORGHESE,
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENTS ALONG THE ALPS, IN TURIN.

Paris. February 21, 1813.

Cousin, I wish you not to lose sight of the formation of the 13th Hussars Regiment. Let me know what voluntary donations will produce and when the officers will arrive. Have you made saddles and the necessary clothing items? When do you think this regiment will be ready to serve?

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis Gozzani di San-Giorgio.

19605. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 23, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I receive your letter of February 21st. The work of the troop movement office is too much abandoned, and I have to go into detail myself. It is ridiculous to send the companies from Amsterdam to Maastricht, to return them from Maastricht to Utrecht. At the head of this office of the movement is someone who knows the geography and who is looking for ways not to make false movements to the troops. I will do it myself, the detail of the movement of the marching battalions of the observation corps of the Elbe.

You will tomorrow pass the review of the four companies of the 135th by Count Lobau; you will have them complete to 400 men, and leave the day after tomorrow for Utrecht.

Order that the 1st company of the 5th battalion of the 146th, which is at Amsterdam, proceed to Utrecht; that the 2nd, which is in Maestricht and which you will complete by the 3rd, goes to Utrecht, and that the 4th, which is in Amsterdam, also goes to Utrecht. These three companies may arrive immediately at Utrecht, and by this means this battalion will be formed as soon as possible. The depots of the 1st, 2nd and 4th companies will go to Maestricht, where, joined to that of the 3rd company, they will form the fund of the depot of this battalion.

Order that the four companies of the 148th, which are at Brussels, leave on the 25th of Brussels, each completed with 140 men, and go without delay to Utrecht, where they will have to be returned in the first days of March.

Order that the 2nd company of 147th, which is in Brussels, the 3rd, which is in Maestricht, and the 1st, which is in Metz, put themselves in[535]

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walk without delay on Utrecht. All that belongs to the depots I will go to Metz to form the funds of the battalion depot. You feel that it would be ridiculous for the 2nd company, which is in Brussels, to go to Metz to go to Utrecht.

Order that the 25th of this month leave from Tours the 1st and the 2nd company of the 150, and Mayence the 3rd completed with what is available in the 4th, and that all this goes to Utrecht the earliest possible.

Finally give the same order in this sense to all other companies. Let all set out as soon as possible, and let all the companies meet at Utrecht, where the battalions will be formed. By this means you will gain a lot of marches and a lot of time, and in the first days of March these battalions will be formed.

I send you back your work for you to make the new rectified state of this movement, and I conclude by informing you that the war has no more important part to follow than the movement of the troops.

Independently of the office that writes, it is necessary, as for the artillery, an office which thinks. Every day, as in this report, I am made proposals which do the greatest harm and which oblige me to exhausting details.

Napoleon.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19606. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 23, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, give General Lucotte a copy of your last orders to the King of Spain. Reiterate to him again that it is essential that his headquarters should be carried to Valladolid; to restore tranquility in Navarre and Aragon; that he occupies Madrid only by a flying corps; that it is important to make strong contributions to Madrid and Toledo, and to make them pay; that all hospitals must be in Valladolid, Burgos, Vitoria, Tolosa, Pamplona; that finally he occupies Salamanca and Leon, and has a siege crew prepared at Burgos, to threaten Ciudad-Rodrigo, and to make him fear an invasion on his part in Portugal.

Tell him that he must take steps to receive twice a week I mail Bayonne; for this purpose the couriers,[536]

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escorted by infantry patrols, must go from Bayonne to Valladolid, making at least one league an hour without interruption.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19607. - TO THE GENERAL DUROC, DUC DE FIUOUL, GRAND MARÉCAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 23, 1813.

I see, by the state of situation which you gave me, that the complete of the 2nd regiment of chevau- légers is of 2,016 men. He had on the 1st of February 1,141, so there were 875 men missing; but he waited only 539 men; the deficit was therefore only 336 men. I have come, by my decree of this day, to increase this regiment of 500 men; but the squadron of Paris, which is incorporated there, brings him 250 men, he will thus still miss, on the one hand, 250 men, and, on the other, 336 men; total, 586 men.

As for the horses of this regiment, the complete is of 2,012. He has 1,276; 736. This regiment must receive 290 of boost and 413 from the offers of the departments; total, 703; the complete lack is thus only 33. I have added 500 horses, by my decree of that day, to the strength of this regiment; but the squadron of Paris gives him 250 horses; thus, on the one hand, 250 horses are missing, and on the other, 33; total, 283 horses. In summary, the deficit of this regiment is therefore 586 men and 283 horses.

Chasseurs à cheval. - The regiment of Chasseurs à cheval lacked 725 men to complete it. It is still waiting for 286, coming from the appeal made to the different regiments, and 1,400, coming from offers made by different departments; total, 1.686; he has 961 men too many. Could not we take from this surplus the 586 men who are lacking in the 2nd chevau- légers Regiment?

As for horses, 841 horses are missing from the regiment of mounted chasseurs; but 196 are expected returns and 1,400 offers departments; there are therefore 1,600 horses to be received, that is to say 800 horses more than it should be. We could therefore give 283 to the 2nd regiment of chevau-leggers; there is still much more to be left of it.

Mamelukes. - There are 164 full men missing from the Maneluks; but they must receive 200, which compensates.[537]

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Dragons. - There are 563 men missing from the dragoons; they must receive 438; the deficit will still be 125. As for the horses, 800 horses are completely missing; 283 are expected returns and 299 are to come from the offers of the departments; which will make 582 horses; so he will still miss 218 horses.

Grenadiers à cheval. - 617 men are missing in full, 447 are to be received; the deficit will therefore be about 200 men. 684 horses are missing; 320 must come back, 360 offers from the departments; which makes 680 horses, that is compensation.

Gendarmerie d'élite. - There are 198 men missing from this body; but 229 are to arrive, that makes balance; it is missing 124 horses, but it must receive 120 horses, it still balance.

The result of this overview is that chasseurs have more men and horses than they need, but that chevau-légers, dragons and grenadiers à cheval are lacking. Present me a draft decree to fill this deficit. Let me know also if in these calculations are included the 760 horses to be delivered beyond the Rhine.

According to the total of your state, 3,142 men are missing altogether.

You have 1,400 to receive on the recruiting and 2,100 to receive on the offers of the departments, which makes 3,500 men to receive; you have more men than you need.

As for the horses, in total, there are 3,300 missing: you have 1,200 to receive returns and 2,600 to receive offers from the departments; total, 3,800; which also makes more horses than we need.

1st and 3rd regiments of chevau-légers. As for these two regiments, I wish that all the officers be preserved and that they be completed in squadrons.

If I carried to ten squadrons, that is to say, 2,500 men, my regiment of chasseurs à cheval, this regiment could not yield anything to the other corps; I would then have to provide for the deficit of chevau-légers, which is 586 men; the deficit of the dragoons, which is 125, and the deficit of the heavy cavalry, which is 200; total of the deficit to which it will remain to be filled, 911 men.

I will then have ten squadrons of lancers, 2,500 men; ten chasseurs, 2,500; six of dragons, 1,500; six grenadiers, 1,500, and finally two elite gendarmerie, 500; total, thirty-four squadrons making 8,500 men, independently of the two regiments of Polish lancers; which will bring to 10,000 men the cavalry of the Guard.[538]

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The 900 missing men could easily be supplied by the 10,000 men of the Guard Infantry; which would make the completeness of the grenadiers, dragoons and chevau-légers independent of the arrival of the 1,400 men destined to the chasseurs.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19608. NOTE DICTATED TO THE GRAND MAHÉCHAL DU PALAIS.
Paris, February 23, 1813.

My intention is to take for my crews a whole other step than the past campaign. I want to have a lot less people, fewer cooks, less dishes, no much needed, and that as much to set an example as to reduce embarrassment. In the field and on the move, the tables, even mine, will be served with soup, boiled, roast and vegetables, no dessert. In big cities, we will do what we want.

Give me the state of what I had in the last campaign and what is proposed for it.

I do not want to take pages, they do not serve me anything; perhaps I will bring those of the game hunting who are twenty-four years old and, being accustomed to fatigue, may be useful.

Also reduce the number of canteens; instead of four beds, only two; to the link of four tents, to have only two, and furniture in proportion.

From the original. Imperial Library.

19609. - IN BARON DE LA BOUILLERIE, TREASURER GENERAL CROWN AND EXTRAORDINARY DOMAINE, PARIS.
Paris. February 24, 1813,

I wish you to give General House a sum of 120,000 francs in sums of the sinking fund. I grant him this sum to facilitate the repayment of such a sum as it owes to the sinking fund for the property it has acquired on the left bank of the Rhine. See Count Berenger to know if this is so. You will give the good ones to General House.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,[539]

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19610. - BARON LA BOUILLERIE, TREASURER GENERAL CROWN AND EXTRAORDINARY DOMAINE, PARIS.

Paris, February 24, 1813.

Have Baron Flahault, an aide-de-camp, give 25,000 francs to get on board and equip himself. You will impute this sum on the chapter of the gratuities of 1813.

According to the minute. Archive's of the Empire.

19611. - GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 25, 1813,

I receive your report of February 23 (artillery office).

I approve that you carry your powder orders to the maximum of all that our factories can supply.

You draw from Beaufort 20,000 kilograms of powder, so that only 11,000 kilograms remain; it would be better to draw only 10,000 and take the other 10,000 at Auxonne. There is at Besancon only 4,000 kilograms; this situation is intolerable. Send from Auxonne 10,000 kilograms for Besancon; which will make in this last place 14,000 kilograms. I see with difficulty that you will only be left with 90,000 kilograms of powder; there would always be 400,000 in this place; take 400,000 of our factories. One should also always have at least 100,000 kilograms in Besancon; read what is missing from the manufactories of Auxonne and Dijon. You have only 5,000 kilograms at Venloo; this is still intolerable; at least 30,000 kilograms are needed. According to your condition, only 60,000 kilograms will remain in Maestricht, 40,000 kilograms in Julius, and 20,000 in Charlemont; all this is very little. I think, therefore, that you must direct from Holland, French Flanders, and factories a powder supply on the frontier, so that Venloo, Maeslricht, Juliers, Charlemont, and Grave are to have a reasonable supply, and that there is has, in addition, a large powder deposit at Metz,

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[540]

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19612. - GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 26, 1813.

The Duke de Feltre, it is necessary to lay the foundations of the organization of the cavalry, during the campaign of 1813, to the army of Germany.

Cuirassiers. There will be fifteen cuirassier regiments, or carabineers, each of which will have three squadrons, to 200 men per squadron; what he will do, regiment, 600 men mounted, and, in all, forty-five squadrons or 11,000 men, The 13th of cuirassiers will be a squadron, forming 200 men; which will bring the total number of cuirassiers and carabineers to forty-six squadrons, or 9,200 men. All the officers and non-commissioned officers drawn from the gendarmerie, all those who have returned from the Grande Armée, and finally all those who can be procured, will serve to complete these cadres.

The 4th and 5th Squadron cadres will close after the first three squadrons have been completed. The men needed for the 4th and 5th squadrons will be provided by the conscripts of 1814 and 1815.

For the 9,200 men required for the forty-six squadrons of cuirassiers and carabineers, there are as of January 15, 1,830 men; in conscripts of the four classes, 2,638; in men provided by cohorts, 880; men supplied by the reserve companies, 322, and on the supplement of 6,000 men on the classes, 1,426; total, 7,096 men. There are more in Germany 2,761 men; that would make a total of 9,857 men.

In horses, there was, on January 15th, 336 horses; 387 were to be delivered by the past contracts, 2,595 were to be received on the requisition of 15,000 horses: that is 3,318. The surplus would be to receive in Germany, that is to say 5,882 horses.

The new stalls which you will raise as a result of the present letter being more positive, will make better known our situation, and thus what will have to send in Germany. There is already a detachment of cuirassiers party for Hanover.

If, on the conscription of 1814, it were necessary to give 200 men to each of the sixteen regiments of cuirassiers or carabineers, that would make 3,200 men, and the same number of horses would have to be procured.

Dragons. The twenty-four regiments of dragoons have thirty-eight squadrons in France; it is esteemed in the Great Army eight coming from[541]

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the Dragon Brigade organized in Hanover; seven return from Spain; that makes fifty-three squadrons. These fifty-three squadrons, each completed with 200 men, will give 10,600 mounted men. The four regiments which were at the Grande Armée could each furnish three squadrons like the regiments of cuirassiers; it is still twelve squadrons, which, to 200 men each, will give 2,100 men. The total number of squadrons of dragoons for the German army would therefore be sixty-five, or 13,000 men and as many horses.

The twenty-four regiments of dragoons had in France, on the 15th of January, 3,762 men; they had, on the conscripts of the four classes, 4,187 men; men provided by reserve companies, 219; on the supplement of 6,000 men, 3,042; total, 11,210 men. In addition, they have 1,940 men beyond the Rhine; which makes 13,150 men. They have the necessary number of men.

For horses, there will be 5,814 in the interior; there are some beyond the Rhine 1,573; total, 7.387. It would be necessary to have in Germany the surplus, that is to say nearly 6,000 horses; but, as it is difficult to hope to obtain this number of horses this year, it seems advisable to reduce the number of squadrons which would be completed this year.

The 2nd, 5th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 17th, 19th and 20th have already their 4th squadrons in Germany; they may each complete two in France, which will make twenty-four squadrons for these eight regiments.

The 4th, 6th, 11th, 15th, 18th, 22nd, 24th, 25th and 26th, although having three squadrons in France, will each furnish only two, which will make eighteen squadrons for these nine regiments.

The 16th, 21st and 27th regiments have only one squadron in France, and each will complete only one squadron; which makes for these three regiments three squadrons.

Finally the 7th, 23rd, 28th and 30th will each complete, either in France or in Germany, three squadrons; which makes for these four regiments twelve squadrons, and, in all, fifty-seven squadrons instead of sixty-five. There will remain eight more squadrons to complete in France. The twenty-four regiments of dragoons make one hundred and twenty squadrons; of the one hundred and twenty squadrons, forty-seven will be in Spain, fifty-seven will be organized this year for the German army, which makes one hundred and four squadrons; the remaining sixteen would remain to be organized later. These fifty-seven squadrons, with 200 men per squadron, will make 11,400 men.[542]

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We have seen that there are 13,130 men and 7,387 horses in France and Germany; it will therefore be about 4,000 horses to be procured in Germany.

Chevau-légers. The 7th regiment of light cavalry arrives entirely at Sedan; it can supply its four squadrons or 1,000 men. All the other light horse regiments made the campaign; they can each provide three squadrons to 250 men per squadron; which will make 750 men per regiment, and for the eight regiments, twenty-four squadrons, which will make, with the four squadrons of the seventh, twenty-eight squadrons or 7,000 men, on which 1,577 men exist beyond the Rhine and 4,551 in the inside.

Thus the number of men is sufficient; it would be around 1,500 horses, but they will be supplied by the markets in Germany. For all that is relative to light cavalry, we still do not know what exists, because of the fact that the distribution of mounted men offered by the departments will probably give a quarter more than you had thought; but currently you must know the resources of the different regiments in men and horses. The main thing is to organize, either in France or at the Grande Armée, three squadrons for each regiment, and to keep two in the interior to receive the conscription of 1812. Thus the nine regiments of light horse, which should provide twenty-eight squadrons, can provide only twenty-five, in order to have time to organize the others, and to have facility for the officers and non-commissioned officers.

Hussars. The 10th regiment of hussars, having not made the campaign, will have its six squadrons at 250 men; which will make 1,500 men. The 13th and 14th regiments of new formation will have three or four squadrons, according to the number of men who will offer the departments beyond the Alps.

The other eleven regiments are divided into five regiments which have their squadrons of war in Spain, and six regiments which have them with the Grande Armée. The six regiments which made the campaign of the Grande Armée will each provide three squadrons or 730 men; which will make eighteen squadrons; they will supply one more, or four, if the mounted men offered by the departments furnish more than 13,000 men borne in the states. The five regiments which have their squadrons of war in Spain will furnish, namely: the 1st, two squadrons; the 2nd, three squadrons, the 3rd, three squadrons, the fourth, two squadrons; the 9th *bis*, became 12th, two squadrons: total, twelve squadrons; which will do in all for the fourteen[543]

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regiments of hussars, forty - four squadrons, or, at 250 men per squadron, 11,000 men.

Thus the fourteen regiments of hussars, which will form seventy-one squadrons, will have thirteen in Spain and forty-four in the Grand Army; which makes fifty-seven; there will therefore remain fourteen to receive the conscription of 1814. For the 11,000 men required, there are 10,57 in the interior and 1,447 beyond the Rhine; which makes 12,000, and it seems even that the voluntary engagements and the offers of the communes will carry this number higher.

Chasseurs à cheval. - The 13th regiment of chasseurs has eight squadrons, four in Spain and four in Niort; it will provide four squadrons completed to 250 men or 1,000 men. The 19th Regiment has six squadrons at the Grand Army or at the depot; it will also provide four squadrons or 1,000 men. These two regiments of chasseurs are the only ones which have more than five squadrons; they will provide between them two eight squadrons.

The number of regiments of chasseurs being twenty-eight, by removing the two regiments aforesaid, there remain twenty-six, of which seventeen have their squadrons of war at the Grande Armée, and nine in Spain. Those who have their squadrons of war in Spain are: the 5th, which can provide three squadrons or 750 men; the 14th, which will provide three squadrons or 750 men; the 13th, which will provide two squadrons or 500 men; the 21st, which will provide three squadrons or 750 men; the 22nd, which will provide three squadrons or 750 men; the 26th, which will provide three squadrons or 750 men; the 27th, which will provide three squadrons or 570 men; I'm 29th, who will provide two squadrons; the 31st, which will provide two squadrons: total, twenty-four squadrons.

The seventeen regiments which have their squadrons of war at the Grande Armée will each furnish three squadrons, which will make fifty-one squadrons, and in all eighty-three squadrons of chasseurs. Of the twenty-eight regiments of chasseurs making one hundred and forty-four squadrons, there will be in Spain twenty-five squadrons and one hundred and nineteen in France and Germany, of which, eighty-three being in the army, he will remain thirty-six to receive the conscription of 1814 and to be organized later. The eighty-three squadrons that will be at the Grande Armée will make 20,570 men; there are some in the interior 18,118, which will be increased by the voluntary offers, which are more numerous than you have brought them; there are also 3,500 beyond the Rhine; which is about 22,000 men.[544]

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SUMMARY.

Cuirassiers and *carabiniers*. Sixteen regiments, eighty squadrons: forty-six in the army, thirty in France, four in Spain.

Dragons. - Twenty-four regiments, one hundred and twenty squadrons, of which fifty-seven in the German army, sixteen in France, forty-seven in Spain,

Each squadron of heavy cavalry will be 200 horses; forty regiments of heavy cavalry will thus make two hundred squadrons, which, to 200 men per squadron, give 10,000 men, of which one hundred and three squadrons or 20,600 men to the army of Germany, forty-six squadrons or 9,200 men in France, and fifty and a squadron or 10,200 men in Spain.

Chevau-légers, - Nine regiments, forty-five squadrons, of which twenty-five he army of Germany and twenty in France,

Hussars. Fourteen regiments, seventy-one squadrons, forty-four of which were in the army of Germany, fourteen in France, and thirteen in Spain.

Chasseurs à cheval. - Twenty-eight regiments, one hundred and forty-four squadrons, of which eighty-three were in the German army, thirty-six in France, twenty-five in Spain.

Each squadron of light cavalry being 250 horses, the fifty-one regiments, or the two hundred and sixty squadrons of light cavalry, will give 65,000 men, namely, to the army of Germany, one hundred and fifty-two squadrons, 38,000 men; in France, seventy squadrons, 17,500 men; in Spain, thirty-eight squadrons, 9,500 men,

GENERAL SUMMARY.

German army: heavy cavalry, one hundred and three squadrons, 20,600 men; light cavalry, one hundred and fifty-two squadrons, 38,000 men; total, two hundred and fifty-five squadrons, 58,600 men,

Spanish army: heavy cavalry, fifty-one squadrons, 10,200 men; light cavalry, thirty-eight squadrons, 9,500 men; total, eighty-nine squadrons, 19,700 men.

France: heavy cavalry, forty-six squadrons, 9,200 men; light cavalry, seventy squadrons, 17,500 men; total, one hundred and sixteen squadrons, 26,700 men; from which it would follow that, on the conscription of 1814 and 1815, it would be necessary, to complete the cadets voted in France, 27,000 men.

Total cavalry: heavy cavalry, two hundred squadrons, 40,000 men; light cavalry, two hundred and sixty squadrons,[545]

65,000 men; total, four hundred and sixty squadrons, 105,000 men.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Please send a copy of this letter to the Minister of War Administration.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19613. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 26, 1813.

Send this letter from the commander of Spandau to General Lauriston at Magdeburg, to send to Spandau a doctor, a surgeon, a little powder, though I think there is enough in the place, and a company of sappers .

Order General Barthelemy, if he has not already received from the Marshal Duke de Castiglione, as soon as he is invested, to disarm the Prussians and take all necessary measures for the safety of his place.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19614. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 26, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, Wesel sent out 330 refractory conscripts for the 134th regiment, which is at Magdeburg, and they were sent to Mainz to go to Magdeburg. This movement will desert all these conscripts; they are made to trek, while from Wesel to Magdeburg there is only one step. Give the conscripts another direction at once, if there is time yet. But it would be very important that no faults be made of this species; it cancels all the means of the army.

NAPOLEON.

According to the minute. Deposit of the war

19615.- TO GENEAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 26, 1813.

Count de Cessac, on February 20th there was no supply at Wesel. This however becomes of the greatest[546]

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emergency. Give me a report on that. The current service itself was overdue.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19616. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, February 26, 1813.

The artillery convoys started from Wesel and Mainz, with 60 wagons and 300 horses per convoy; they are organized in batteries. You will receive ninety-two pieces of cannon, which will make 7 to 800 wagons, drawn by 3,000 horses. Be sure to walk well, and. do not lose sight of them in their movement.

The Duke of Padua must be at Erfurt.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19617. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, February 26, 1813.

General Lauriston, I am responding to your letter of February 17. You must not change the cadres of the Grand Army, who must go to Erfurt, where they will be organized.

I provided for the defense of the 32nd Military Division; six battalions are on the march to reach it; they will arrive there in the course of March. Keep in Magdeburg all the officers of staff, artillery, engineers, and brigade generals who might be in a position to serve; you will need it.

The Rochambeau division, which leaves Frankfurt to join you, lacks brigadier generals,

NAPOLEON,

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19618 - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, February 26, 1813.

Count Lauriston, I receive your letter of the 22nd, in which I see that patrols of Cossacks have approached Berlin; I am impatiently awaiting the courier of tomorrow; I suppose that the Viceroy and Marshal St. Cyr will have repulsed them.[547]

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You must approach your whole corps of Magdeburg. The Rochambeau division left on the 24th of Frankfurt, taking the road to Westphalia. Hold your whole corps together, to act according to the circumstances.

Write to the King of Westphalia to assemble, half-way from Hamburg to Magdeburg, that is to say, towards Havelberg, his corps d'armee, and by this means you will defend the Elbe, and that body may meet with you to maneuver.

I hope the King of Saxony has supplied Torgau; There must be a corps of troops; hence the Elbe is bordered.

Twenty-eight battalions of the Grand Army must at this moment be organized and completed at Erfurt, and even have flown to Wittenberg. The Viceroy will give orders as far as they are concerned; but the prince of Eckmühl must reorganize them and take the command of them; which will moreover make you a corps on your right, unless the viceroy, if he has returned to Berlin, remembers them to him.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19619. - TO M. BARBIER, LIBRARY OF THE IMPERTER, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 26, 1813.

At the beginning of the last campaign, the Emperor commissioned Baron Meneval to take from the Dresden Library some works on Russia and Poland. Mr. Meneval gave a receipt to the King's librarian at Dresden. Since then, these books have been burned with the van that carried them. The intention of the Emperor is to seek the same works here and to return them to the Dresden Library. It is by order of the Emperor that I address this note to M. Barbier.

The Secretary of the Cabinet,

Baron FAIN.

From the original comm. by Mr. Louis Barbier.

19620. - A. M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris. February 21, 1813.

The Duke of Bassano, General Reynier arrived at Glogau on the 28th. He brought with him two regiments of Polish infantry and several regiments of cavalry. The cavalry appears to be 2,000 men.

Write on the spot by hand to my Minister Serra that he has to[548]
provide these two regiments of infantry and cavalry regiments with all that is necessary to dress them, equip them, and assemble them. Temporarily open for this purpose a credit of 200,000 francs.

The Viceroy directed the cavalry on Meissen.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original Foreign Affairs Archives.

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19621. TO THE MOLLIEN COUNCIL, MINISTER OR TREASURY PUBLIC, IN PARIS.

Paris. February 27, 1813.

Count Mollien, I send you a picture which has been presented to me of the successive changes in the budget of the Grande Armée for 1812. It presents the following results:

MINISTRY OF WAR.
CHAPTER II. -
BALANCE.[549]

The budget of April 4, 1812 granted a credit of.		45,000,000f 00c
From this sum it was deducted:		
1st By a decree of the 1st of September,		
For an advance to the 3rd Regiment of the lancers of the Guard, against vouchers of 10,000 francs	400,000f	
For a loan to Austrian troops, against vouchers of 100,000 francs	1,000,000	
For a loan to the Provisional Committee of the Government of Lithuania, against vouchers of 100,000 francs,.	500,000	
Thus these three samples form a total of	1,900,000	2,900,000 00
who must be represented in the payor's fund by vouchers whose circumstances will determine the value		
2nd By decree of the 5th of December,		
For indemnity to the general and staff officers who lost their equipment . .	1,000,000	
It is in Chapter VIII that this expense and, consequently, this appropriation must be carried forward		
The remaining credit in this chapter is therefore only		42,100,000 00
It is probable that the expenses of the pay will amount only to		34,000,000 00
Thus one would find in this chapter an economy of		8,100,000 00
CHAPTER V. - ARTILLERY		
The open credit for this chapter was . .	4,000,000f	
The orders of the Intendant General, of which it has been reported, only amount t	2,350,000	1,650,000 00
If with this sum everything has been settled, it would remain free	1,650,000	
To be reported		9,750,000 00

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Report.		9,750,000f 00c
CHAPTER VI. - ENGINEERS.		
The budget of April 4th opened for this chapter a credit of	4,500,000f	
The ordinances of the Intendant General amount to	2,059,000	2,441,000 00
If all was settled, there would remain a free fund of.	2,441,000	
But since, in the credit of 4,500,000 francs, there were 2,700,000 francs allocated to replace such a fund in the special budget of Danzig, it must be ascertained whether, before the time when the intendant general had ordained, there was no expenditure was made on this fund by the immediate authorization of the Minister of War.		
CHAPTER VII. - MASSES OF THE GUARD.		
The credit is	1,000,000f 00c	
The Intendant General has not made any order on this subject, which is paid for by journals, but I presume that the entire fund will be absorbed.		
. . . . .		»
CHAPTER VIII. - EXTRAORDINARY AND UNPREDICATED EXPENSES		
The Budget of April 4 opened a credit of. .	3,000,000 f00c	
This credit must be increased:		
1st Of a sum of 180,000 francs which formed the reserve fund and which was brought to Chapter VIII by the Decree of 13 October	180,000 00	
2nd Of the sum of 1,000,000 for the crew allowances, granted by the decree of December 5th, and provisionally taken on the payroll fund	1,000,000 00	
Thus the credit of this chapter amounted to	4,180,000 00	
on what he was paid:		
To the Prince of Eckmühl, for secret expenses, according to a decree of October 1st	37,009f 60c	
To the 1st Guard Lancers Regiment, as an advance, Decree of October 13th:	200,000 00	
Relief to the inhabitants of Moscow, decree of 13 October.	100,000 00	2,859,880 89
Orders of the Intendant General	1,522,871 29	
Order of the Major General for the distribution of a million gratifications	1,000,000 00	
Remaining	1,320,119 11	1,320,119 11
To report		13,511,119f 11c

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Report.. . . . . 13,511,119f 11c

CHAPTER X.- SUBSIDIZED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DUCHY OF WARSAW

The credit opened by the budget of 4 April
was of 3,000,000f 00c

This expense, which had for its object the first bet and the pay of the men of increase in the troops of the Grand Duchy, was paid on journals. I presume that the Minister of War is in a position to make known what has been paid, and if this debt is entirely settled . . . . . »

CHAPTER XI. - RESERVE FUND.

This credit was 180,000f 00c

The decree of October 13th distracted the sum of the reserve fund from Chapter VIII. 180,000 00

» »

Thus, it appears that out of the funds which had been destined for the expenses of the war, a sum of money will remain free 13,511,119 11

Except debts not yet paid.

And we must add to this free fund the claims resulting from loans or advances, namely:

In the 3rd regiment of lancers of the Guard, decree of September 1st.	400,000f
Austrian troops decree of 1 September	1,000,000
To the Lithuanian Government, Decree of September 1	500,000
1st Guards Lancet Regiment, Decree of 13 October. . .	200,000
TOTAL of the sum to be recovered	2,100,000

Or see that, if there was nothing left to pay for the expenses of the Grand Armee, for the Ministry of War, in 1812, there would be a free fund.

. . . . .	13,511,119f 11c
And a fund he recover from	2,100,000 00
The definitive economy would be.	15,611,119 11

MINISTRY OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF WAR

FIRST CHAPTER. - BAKERY.

The budget of April 4th opened for this chapter a credit of. 2,000,000f 00c

The ordinances of the Intendant General, in which I remark, indeed, a considerable deficiency, amount to. 340,000 00

If all was balance, there would remain a free fund of 1,660,000 00

CHAPTER II. - LIVING FROM CAMPAIGN.

The budget credit is 1,500,000f 00c

The ordinances of the master intendant amounting to 136,000 00

1,364,000 00 — 1,364,000 00

Has reported 3,024,000 00

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Report.		3,024,000f 00c
CHAPTER III. - SPECIAL SUPPLIES		
Amount of credit	500,000f 00c	
Amount of orders	36,383 10	463,616 90
	463,616 90	
CHAPTER IV - FORAGES		
Amount of credit	500,000f 00c	
Amount of orders	50,000 00	450,000 00
	450,000 00	
CHAPTER V - CLOTHING		
Amount of credit	4,000,000f 00c	
Amount of orders	155,288 33	3,844,711 67
	3,844,711 67	
CHAPTER VI - HARNESS		
Amount of credit	1,500,000f 00c	
Amount of orders	68,880 00	1,431,120 00
	1,431,120 00	
CHAPTER VIII – BARRACK BUILDINGS		
Amount of credit	200,000f 00c	
Amount of orders	»	200,000 00
	200,000 00	
CHAPTER IX - HEATING		
Amount of credit	500,000f 00c	
Amount of orders	»	500,000 00
	500,000 00	
CHAPTER X - CAMPING		
Amount of credit	500,000f 00c	
Amount of orders	»	500,000 00
	500,000 00	
CHAPTER XI. - CONVOYS AND TRANSPORT		
The budget of 4 April had opened a primitive credit	3,000,000f 00c	
This credit was increased by the decrees of September 1st, deduction from the reserve fund	1,000,000 00	
October 13, idem.	1,000,000 00	
Thus the sum of the credits amounts to . . .	5,000,000 00	
The amount of the prescriptions is only of .	495,000 00	
It should remain free of funds	4,505,000 00	
Has reported		10,413,448 57

Report.		**10,413,448f 57c**
But, since there have certainly been many more expenses, to pay, because of the formation of the battalions of the train, I do not think that one can hope on this chapter line economy of more than		
. . . . .		**1,000,000 00**

CHAPTER XIII. - REMOUNTES

The original budget did not allocate for this species of expenditure any credit; the decree of 28 May granted the reserve fund.

. . . . .		**100,000f 00c**
The decree of September 1st, on the same fund:	**300,000 00**	
The decree of October 2, on the same fund:	**2,000,000 00**	
The sum of the credit amounts to	**2,400,000 00**	

The Intendant General made available to General Bourcier 1st in accordance with the decree of October 2nd

. . . . .	**500,000f**	
2nd To cover advance line made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs on his provisional credit	**308,000**	**3,600,000 00**
3rd On: December 16th.	**600,000**	
4th The 21st	**592,000**	
5th January 2nd	**600,000**	
6th The 5th	**1,000,000**	

We see that the tires placed at the disposal of General Bourcier for the returns exceed the credit of this chapter of 1,200,000 francs. So there will be to take this sum out of the reserve fund

CHAPTER XIV. - HOSPITALS

Amount of credit	**4,500,000f 00c**	
Amount of orders	**349,207 20**	**4,150,792 80**
	4,150,792 80	

CHAPTER XV - RESERVE SUPPLY

Amount of credit.	**1,000,000f 00c**	
Amount of orders	**198,328 00**	**801,672 00**
	801,672 00	

CHAPTER XVII. - EXTERNAL ADMINISTRATION

Amount of credit.	**5,000,000f 00c**	
Amount of orders	**40,286 55**	**4,959,713 45**
	4,959,713 45	
Has reported		**21,325,626 82**

Report.		21,325,626f 82c
CHAPTER XVIII. - VARIOUS EXPENSES		
Amount of original credit granted by budget of 4 April.	»	
It was granted on the reserve fund:		
By the decree of May 5	100,000f 00c	
By the decree of September 1st	300,000 00	
By the decree of 1 September, for the repair of the Bromberg Canal	100,000 00	
By the decree of 1 September, for Danzig's expenses	500,000 00	974,529 00
The sum of the credits is	1,000,000 00	
Amount of orders	25,471 00	
	974,529 00	
CHAPTER XIX. - RESERVE FUND		
This fund was originally of	7,000,000f 00c	
It was collected successively :		
FOR CHAPTER XI		
Decree of 1 Sept. . . 1,000,000		
Decree of 13 October . 1,000,000	2,000,000	
FOR CHAPTER XIII.		
Decree of May 28 . . 100,000		
Decree of 1 Sept. . . 300,000		
Decree of October 2 2,000,000	2,400,000	
	5,400,000 00	
FOR CHAPTER XVIII		400,000 00
Decree of May 5th . . . 100,000		
Decree of 1 Sept. . 300,000		
Decree of 1 Sept. . . 100,000		
Decree of 1 Sept. . . 500,000	1,000,000	
Stay on this fund.	1,600,000 00	
Which must be deduced, to regularize the excess of credit on the returns.	1,200,000 00	
Stay free.	400,000 00	
TOTAL on the budget of the administration of war.		22,700,155 82

SUMMARY

Ministry of War (regardless of 2,100,000 francs to be recovered)	13,511,119f 11c
Ministry of War Administration. . . .	22,700,155 82
TOTAL GENERAL.	36,211,274 93

I understand that this result can not merit complete confidence that when we have ascertained the sum of the payments which have been

facts, and when we know, at least by overview, what remains to pay; but it is important to finish this affair promptly.

You have no doubt ordered the Paymaster General to go to Paris with all the accounts of his exercise. I want you to tell me make it as soon as possible to make a decree that rules definitively the funds that will remain allocated to the expenses of this campaign.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. From the Countess Mollien.

19622. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 21, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, all the Imperial Guard at Fulde, infantry, cavalry, artillery, will meet at Gotha. The Guard Division, which arrives on March 11 and 12 in Mainz, after taking a stay, will be heading to Gotha.

The artillery of the Guard, which left on the 16th, and which will arrive at Mainz on the 8th of March, after having rested there for two days to repair itself, will also march on Gotha.

Order General Barrois, who commands this division, to assemble the artillery under his command, and to divide it between his two brigades, so that it does not march in isolation, but rather marches with the brigades. You will let me know when this division has arrived in Gotha.

Order the Duke of Treviso to leave Paris in order to have arrived at Mayence, by his person, on the 11th. He will inspect the infantry, the cavalry, and the artillery of the Guard, and will march to their heads. On the way to Fulde, he will bring up the horses that are not, and he will go and establish his headquarters in Gotha.

The sappers, the masons and everything that belongs to the engineering department will also meet in Gotha.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19623. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, February 21, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Feltre, let the movement of the observation corps of Italy begin on the 10th of March. General Bertrand, who must[550]

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to be in Verona, will make leave the division which will be the most ready lot, with its artillery and its military equipages, and will direct it on Augsburg. He will cause successively the movement of other divisions. Recommend him to have his ambulances Italian and French, each of six boxes and carrying linen to dressing for 10,000 wounded.

The cavalry of this corps must be composed of a Neapolitan regiment of 1,000 horses, an Italian regiment of 1,000 horses, six squadrons of the nineteenth of chasseurs of 1,500 horses, four squadrons of the 13th of hussars and four of the 14th, 2,000 horses; which will make 5,500 horses.

Brigadier General Fresia will take command of that Cavalry and will march with what will first be available; he will thus bring to Augsburg the 1,000 Neapolitans and at least 1,000 Italians, which will make a body of 2,000 horses.

Appoint a young cavalry brigadier general to go to Verona, organize the 2nd Brigade and leave with it a fortnight after the 1st Brigade,

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19624, - TO GENERAL MOUTON, LOBAU COUNTY, EMPEROR CAMP HELP, .A PARIS,

Paris, February 27, 1813.

I would like to have your opinion on the generals proposed in the attached note for the Souham, Girard, Brenier and Ricard divisions of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps. Could not we find better ones? I also ask you for your opinion on those proposed to me for the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19625. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY; At SCHOENBEHG.

Paris, February 27, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of the 20th of February, by which you inform me of your arrival in the neighborhood of Berlin, and the arrival of General Reynier at Glogau.

General Lauriston arrived at Magdeburg, where his whole corps meets. The two observation corps of the Rhine and the observation corps[551]

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of Italy are on the move. The Imperial Guard, which left Paris and La Fere several weeks ago, will meet on Gotha. See the captains capable of being made battalion commanders or the battalion commanders after you have in your corps, and send them to Magdeburg, in order to endeavor to execute the order which I have given you in this regard.

Order Prince Eckmühl to go to Wittenberg on the Elbe to assemble the twenty-eight battalions of the Grand Army, and after that, according to the circumstances, direct them to the side of Stettin.

I have ordered the Minister of Foreign Affairs to give, through my Minister Serra, what would be necessary to dress and equip the two Polish infantry regiments and the cavalry regiments which arrived at Glogau with the General. Reynier.

Many artillery convoys departed from Wesel and Mainz on the 20th of February for Magdeburg, where they will complete the one hundred pieces of artillery with the double supply that the Elbe observation corps must have.

General Dumas had to receive a decree which I took concerning the supply of all the places of the Oder. The markets that General Dumas spends are mad. He apparently believes that money is only ranked in. It is necessary to strike strong requisitions in the country, to make stores and to give good, as do the enemies. There is nothing ridiculous like the markets he passes. Have you communicate the decree I made for all these objects. Vouchers must also be paid on hospital days until a general liquidation can be made; however, I do not intend to pay them more than twenty sous.

From now on I will have you write by the Duke of Friuli and in my name, fearing that enemy parties will take away my letters. If you have to write in numbers, you can use the number of the secretary of embassy who stayed in Berlin. It is very necessary that you renew all the figures of the army.

A Bavarian division, composed of three brigades, or fifteen battalions, with eighteen pieces of cannon and several regiments of cavalry, meets at Baireuth and Kronach. The Wurtembergers, the Badois and the Hessians meet in Würzburg. This will form, towards the end of March, a corps of 30,000 men, along the mountains of Thuringia. I sent for the King of Westphalia to place his corps on Havelberg's side. I suppose Torgau is supplied; I have[552]

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asked for a supply of reserve that Saxony will have passed. I suppose that you will have put the 31st Division on line, so that you have the 31st, 35th and 36th Divisions.

General Lauriston will not fail to send you all that was in Magdeburg.

Give the strictest orders for the commanders of the Oder forts to become familiar with all that is necessary to them. Put these places in a state of siege, let me know the commandments and the situation of these places.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19626. -TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY, SUPERIOR COMMANDER OF THE 5th, 25th and 2nd MILITARY DIVISIONS, A MAYENCE

Paris. February 21, 1813.

My Cousin, the 1st Division of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps, must be at Hanau. Let me know her situation on March 4th, it must have its fourteen battalions and its artillery. Present me to all places of battalion chiefs, captains, warrant officers, lieutenants, and second lieutenants, who would be vacant. Propose me good subjects and take care to take them only among the presents. Send me these proposals directly with the service stalls, so that I complete the cadre. Let me know if this division has its brigade generals, its adjutant-commander, his administration and his six caissons. It must have her sappers. A company of military crews must have arrived to form the five ambulances of the 1st observation corps, at the rate of six caissons per ambulance, which will make thirty caissons.

I suppose you brought the 2nd division together in Frankfurt. The 136th must have arrived; the 2nd provisional and the 138th will arrive on March 9th; the 145th will arrive on March 8th. These three regiments will need some captains and officers to fill the holidays. See if you have topics to offer. Will this 2nd Division be able to leave in good condition on the 12th of Frankfurt? Will the 3rd division be able to go from the 15th to the 20th, and the 4th from the 20th to the 25th?

The 1st division of the 2nd observation corps of the Rhine must have, in the first days of March, several battalions of arrivals.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke de Valmy.

END OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH VOLUME.[553]

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voulu adopter, à titre de représailles contre les Russes, un plan de dévastation systématique; — projet de l'Empereur de marcher sur la Dvina pour prendre une position plus rapprochée de Saint-Pétersbourg et de Vilna; — état clément de la température; ressources abondantes offertes à l'armée par le pays qu'elle occupe, 287 à 290. — (24 octobre.) Ordre au duc de Bellune de se porter sur Yelnia, pour opérer sa jonction avec l'Empereur sur la route de Kalouga, 290. — (26 octobre.) Résultats du combat de Malo-Yaroslavetz, livré aux Russes le 25; mort du général Delzons; — causes qui déterminent Napoléon à se replier sur Mojaïsk et Viazma, 292. — V. COURLANDE, GRANDE ARMÉE (*Derrières de la*), GRANDE ARMÉE (*Retraite de la*).

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Corps d'observation de l'Elbe (*Grande Armée réorganisée*). — (6 janvier 1813.) Dispositions pour la formation, au moyen des cohortes, d'un nouveau corps d'observation de l'Elbe, 370. — (7 janvier.) Composition de ce corps, qui sera réuni à Hambourg, 373. — (9 janvier.) Lauriston est chargé de le commander, 378. — (12 janvier.) Organisation du corps d'observation de l'Elbe en quatre divisions; incorporation dans ce corps du 134e régiment; la 1re division (quartier général Hambourg) sera sous les ordres de Carra Saint-Cyr; la 2e (à Wesel), sous les ordres de Puthod; la 3e division se réunira à Bremen et à Osnabrück; la 4e, à Mayence, 385, 387. — (15 janvier.) Réunion de la 1re division à Hambourg; réunion prochaine de la 2e à Wesel; de la 3e à Osnabrück, sous les ordres de Lagrange; il reste à pourvoir au commandement de la 4e; l'artillerie pourrait être confiée à Camas; la cavalerie sera organisée ultérieurement, 390, 391. — (20 janvier.) Commencement du mouvement du corps d'observation de l'Elbe sur Magdeburg, 410. — Instructions à Lauriston relativement à l'organisation de son corps à Wesel, Osnabrück et Hambourg; mesures à prendre pour le recrutement de la cavalerie en hommes et en chevaux, 411 à 413. — (22 janvier.) Avis au roi de Saxe de la prochaine réunion du corps d'observation de l'Elbe, 422. — (24 janvier.) Ordres relatifs aux premiers mouvements de ce corps, 433. — Avis au vice-roi de ces mouvements, 439. — (26 janvier.) Dates fixées pour la réunion des diverses divisions du corps d'observation de l'Elbe à Magdeburg, Munster, Osnabrück et Francfort, 452, 453. — (27 janvier.) Force présumée de ce corps; généraux de division sous les ordres de Lauriston; époque probable à laquelle ce corps pourra se porter sur l'Oder, 462, 463. — (6 février.) Ordre à Clarke d'achever sans retard l'organisation du corps d'observation de l'Elbe, dont les cantonnements seront Magdeburg, Brandenburg, Brunswick et Halberstadt, 486. — Instructions à Lauriston sur l'emplacement de ses divisions, et sur les mesures à prendre pour parfaire, en un mois, l'organisation de ses troupes, 488, 489. — (8 février.) Ordre à Lauriston de faire un choix d'officiers pour son corps d'armée et d'instruire ses troupes par des exercices à feu et des manœuvres déterminées; il aura sous ses ordres le corps de cavalerie de Sebastiani, 497, 498. — (13 février.) Nouvel ordre au vice-roi sur la nécessité d'envoyer un choix d'officiers à Lauriston, 518. — Ordre touchant la réunion du corps de l'Elbe à Francfort et à Hanau; état de ce corps, 519, 520. — (23 février.) Instructions sur le mouvement des bataillons de

marche destinés au corps d'observation de l'Elbe, 535, 536. — V. Lauriston.

Corps d'observation d'Italie (*Grande Armée réorganisée*). — (4 janvier 1813.) Dispositions pour la création d'un corps d'observation d'Italie, sous les ordres du général Bertrand; contingent de troupes napolitaines destiné à faire partie de ce corps, qui se réunira à Vérone. 367. — (6 janvier.) Instructions a Clarke pour la formation des régiments provisoires destinés à composer le corps d'observation d'Italie, 370. — (11 janvier.) Ordres à Lacuée au sujet des chevaux à lever pour l'organisation des équipages militaires de ce corps, 383. — Instructions au comte Fontanelli, ministre de la guerre du royaume d'Italie, relativement à la composition du corps commandé par Bertrand, 384. — (12 janvier.) Ordres à Clarke touchant le même objet, 385, 386. — (15 janvier.) Nouvelles instructions pour la formation du corps d'observation d'Italie, 391. — (23 janvier.) Réunion prochaine à Brescia de la division italienne de ce corps, 432. — (26 janvier.) Date fixée pour l'arrivée à Vérone du corps d'observation d'Italie, 453. — (27 janvier.) Force présumée de ce corps; date à laquelle il pourra se porter sur l'Oder, 462, 463. — (4 février.) Ordre à Bertrand de réunir son corps pour le 1er mars, et de se tenir prêt à entrer dans le Tyrol, 475. — (8 février.) Avis au général Bertrand des mesures prises et des mouvements de troupes commandés en vue de la formation du corps d'observation d'Italie, destiné à s'ébranler prochainement, 499. — (27 février.) Date fixée pour la mise en marche sur Augsburg du corps d'observation d'Italie; composition de la cavalerie sous les ordres du général Fresia, 555, 556.

Corps d'observation du Rhin (1er) (*Grande Armée réorganisée*). — (6 janvier 1813.) Ordres concernant la formation d'un corps d'observation du Rhin, 370. — (7 janvier.) Composition de ce corps, dont Mayence sera le quartier général, 376. — (9 janvier.) Le duc de Raguse le commandera, 378. — (12 janvier.) Ordres à Clarke touchant l'organisation du 1er corps d'observation du Rhin, 385. — (14 janvier.) Dispositions pour la réunion à Mayence, puis à Francfort, d'une première division de ce corps, sous les ordres de Souham, 389. — (15 janvier.) Observations sur la formation, approuvée par Napoléon, des quatre divisions du 1er corps d'observation du Rhin, 392, 393. — (20 janvier.) Arrivée prochaine à Francfort de la 1re division, sous les ordres de Souham, 409. — (24 janvier.) Avis au vice-roi de ce mouvement, 439. — (26 janvier.) Dates fixées pour la réunion des diverses divisions du 1er corps d'observation du Rhin à Francfort, Hanau et Mayence, 452, 453. — (27 janvier.) Ordres touchant l'organisation de l'artillerie de ce corps, 457 à 460. — Force présumée de ce corps, à l'époque où il pourra entrer en ligne sur l'Oder; le commandement en sera confié soit au duc de Raguse, soit au comte de Lobau, 462, 463. — (13 février.) Envoi à Clarke de l'état de formation du 1er corps d'observation du Rhin; tableau dressé dans cette vue, 515, 516. — (17 février.) Ordre au prince de la Moskova de réunir à Francfort-sur-le-Main le 1er corps d'observation du Rhin, qui est mis sous son commandement, 529. — (27 février.) Ordres au duc de Valmy pour l'organisation, à Francfort et à Hanau, du 1er corps d'observation du Rhin, 558.

Corps d'observation du Rhin (2e) (*Grande Armée réorganisée*). — (6 janvier 1813.) Création prochaine d'un 2e corps d'observation du Rhin, 371. — (7 janvier.) Composition de ce corps, 375. — (15 janvier.) Régiments destinés à former les quatre divisions du 2e corps d'observation du Rhin; ils s'organiseront à Paris, Mayence et Lyon, 393. — (26 janvier.) Instructions relatives à la composition du 2e corps d'observation du Rhin; dates fixées pour l'arrivée de chaque division à Mayence, 452, 453. — (27 janvier.) Organisation de l'artillerie de ce corps, 457 à 460. — Force présumée de ce corps à l'époque où il sera en mesure d'entrer en ligne sur l'Oder; il sera sous les ordres de Marmont ou du comte de Lobau, 462, 463. — (13 février.) Tableau de l'état de formation du 2e corps d'observation du Rhin, 516. — (17 février.) Le duc de Raguse est chargé du commandement, 529.

Corps diplomatique. — (29 juillet 1812.) Ordre au ministre des relations extérieures de ne laisser en résidence à Vilna aucun agent diplomatique étranger, 102. — (29 novembre.) Répétition du même ordre, motif déterminant de cette mesure, 323. — (4 décembre.) Les représentants étrangers seront dirigés sur Varsovie, 333. — (11 décembre.) Ordre au corps diplomatique de rejoindre l'Empereur à Paris, 339.

Corps législatif. — (14 février 1813.) Discours de l'Empereur à l'ouverture du Corps législatif : exposé des vains efforts faits par les Anglais en Espagne ; relation succincte de la campagne de Moscou ; causes des pertes essuyées par la Grande Armée ; importance des nouvelles ressources offertes à Napoléon par le patriotisme des populations de tout l'Empire ; impuissance des menées de l'Angleterre ; but du concordat de Fontainebleau ; ferme intention de l'Empereur de ne pas abandonner ses alliés et de ne conclure qu'une paix conforme aux vrais intérêts et à l'honneur du pays ; légitimité de la guerre entreprise par les États-Unis d'Amérique pour le maintien du droit des neutres, vœux de Napoléon en leur faveur ; situation prospère de l'agriculture, du commerce et des manufactures, 520 à 522.

Correspondance militaire. V. Estafettes, Routes militaires de la Grande Armée.

Corsin (Baron), général de brigade, à la Grande Armée, 31, 32.

Cosaques (Cavalerie des). — (1er juillet 1812.) Apparition des Cosaques à Pavlovo et à Tourgheli, 5. — (3 juillet.) Évacuation de Grodno par Platof et les Cosaques, 13. — (5 juillet.) L'hetman manœuvre pour opérer sa jonction avec Bagration, 19. — (9 juillet.) Les Cosaques, coupés de Minsk, se dirigent sur Bobrouisk, 44. — Conjecture sur le but des manœuvres de Platof, 43. — (31 juillet.) Ordre à Davout de protéger contre les Cosaques la route de Smolensk, 112. — (2 août.) Reconnaissances à faire faire pour s'assurer s'il y a des Cosaques sur la rive droite de la Dvina, 116. — (20 août.) Dispositions pour assurer la route du Dniepr contre les incursions des Cosaques, 160. — Les généraux Pino et Pajol sont chargés de chasser les Cosaques des environs de Vitebsk et des derrières de l'armée, 162. — Ordres dans ce sens au prince Eugène, 163. — (22 août.) Nouveaux ordres dans le même sens, 166. — (24 août.) Mesures militaires à prendre pour mettre la Lithuanie à l'abri des incursions des Cosaques, 177, 178. — (29 août.) Ordres sur le même sujet; postes et redoutes à établir dans cette vue sur les routes de communication de l'armée, 187, 188. — (3 septembre.) Captures considérables faites par les Cosaques sur les détachements chargés du service des fourrages et des subsistances; ordres de Napoléon à ce sujet, 203. — (24 septembre.) Enlèvement par les Cosaques d'un détachement français sur la route de Moscou; mesures à prendre en conséquence, 230. — (6 octobre.) Ordre aux généraux Ornano et Broussier de pourchasser activement les Cosaques et de leur tendre des embuscades nocturnes, 250. — (19 octobre.) Engagement, à Vinkovo, entre la cavalerie des Cosaques et celle de Sebastiani; l'ennemi est repoussé par Murat, 275. — (20 octobre.) Ordre au duc de Trévise de veiller à ce que, dans sa marche sur Mojaïsk, ses communications ne soient pas coupées par les Cosaques, 279. — (23 octobre.) Attaque du corps de Mortier par les Cosaques de Winzingerode; capture de cet officier et de son aide de camp, 289. — (7 novembre.) Inquiétudes inspirées à Napoléon par l'affluence des Cosaques sur les derrières de l'armée, 302. — (28 novembre.) Ordre au vice-roi de faire observer les Cosaques du côté de Veselovo et Rogatka, 321. — (3 décembre.) Prises considérables faites sur l'armée par les Cosaques depuis le 6 novembre, 326, 328. — (4 décembre.) Observations au sujet des incursions des Cosaques en Lithuanie, 334. — (20-22 janvier 1813.) Mesure à prendre par le roi de Saxe pour protéger ses États contre les courses des Cosaques, 409.) — (26 janvier.) Ordre au vice-roi d'arrêter avec sa cavalerie les incursions des Cosaques, 457. — (26 février.) Mouvements de Cosaques autour de Berlin, 547.

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Côtes (*Défense des*). V. Frontières (*Défense des*).

Courlande, gouvernement de Russie. — (9 juillet 1812.) Position des Russes à Dinabourg; l'Empereur veut les rejeter hors de la Courlande pour faciliter les manœuvres de Macdonald, chargé de passer la Dvina et de procéder au blocus de Riga; — ordre au duc de Tarente de ménager la Courlande, dont il prendra le gouvernement, et d'y laisser subsister les états provinciaux; ressources offertes à l'armée française par cette riche région, 39 à 41. — (12 juillet.) Le général Campredon sera chargé de faire le siége de Riga; mesures à prendre pour transporter devant cette place l'équipage de siége nécessaire aux opérations, 56. — (15 juillet.) L'Empereur se propose de tourner la position des Russes à Dinabourg, 64. — (16 juillet.) Position à prendre par Macdonald devant Dinabourg; il manœuvrera de façon à menacer à la fois cette dernière ville et Riga, 65. — (23 juillet.) Ordre à Oudinot de laisser, jusqu'à l'arrivée du duc de Tarente, une colonne d'observation devant Dinabourg, 97. — (1er août.) Envoi d'auditeurs en Courlande; Maret correspondra avec eux, 112. — Investissement de Riga, sur la rive gauche de la Dvina, 114. — (2 août.) Échec essuyé par le général Essen à Ekaou, 116. — (5 août.) Entrée du duc de Tarente à Dinabourg; les Russes évacuent cette place, 122. — (10 août.) Contribution de guerre frappée sur la Courlande, 148. — (6 octobre.) Renforts envoyés par les Russes à la garnison de Riga, 252.

Courriers russes. — (3 septembre 1812.) L'Empereur se plaint qu'on ait laissé passer un courrier russe dans le duché de Varsovie; ordres sévères à ce sujet, 204. — (4 septembre.) Interception d'un courrier de Tormasof; renseignements ainsi obtenus sur le corps d'armée de ce général, 205. — (8 octobre.) Renseignements dus à une nouvelle interception de courriers, 259.

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Danemark. — (22 juillet 1812.) L'Empereur compte sur la coopération d'un corps de 10,000 Danois pour protéger les côtes allemandes de la Baltique contre une descente des Anglais, 92. — (5 janvier 1813.) Avis au roi Frédéric VI des grands préparatifs militaires renouvelés par l'Empereur; assurance que l'intégrité du Danemark continuera d'être garantie par la France; Napoléon ne doute pas que Frédéric VI, de son côté, persévérant dans une politique conforme aux vrais intérêts de ses peuples, ne continue de garantir contre toute attaque les côtes de la Baltique, 368, 369. — (9 janvier.) Confiance de Napoléon dans les bonnes dispositions du Danemark, 380. — (22 janvier.) Assurances de fidélité transmises à l'Empereur par le roi Frédéric VI, 422. — (14 février.) Hypothèse d'une attaque prochaine de la Norvége par les Suédois, 518.

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Danzig, ville de Prusse occupée par les Français. — (4 juillet 1812.) La division Daendels à Danzig, 15. — (8 juillet.) Ordre de diriger sur Kœnigsberg une partie de la garnison de Danzig; le ministre de France à Berlin concertera avec le ministre de la guerre prussien les mesures à prendre, le cas échéant, pour la défense de Danzig, 31. — (12 juillet.) Ordre à la division Daendels de quitter Danzig, où elle sera remplacée par la division Lagrange, 57. — (22 juillet.) Mesures à prendre pour renforcer la garnison de Danzig, 93. — (9 août.) L'équipage de siége de Magdeburg rentrera à Danzig pour compléter l'armement de cette place, 135. — (29 août.) Ordre au gouverneur de Danzig relativement à des troupes de marche à faire partir de cette ville, 189. — (11 septembre.)

Troupes à laisser à Danzig, lors de l'appel à Smolensk des corps demeurés sur les derrières de l'armée, 214, 215. — (3 novembre.) Bataillons de ligne à diriger sur Danzig, 296. — (11 novembre.) Envoi à Danzig de la division Heudelet, 307. — (4 janvier 1813.) Ordre au général Rapp de pourvoir à l'approvisionnement et à l'armement de Danzig; dans le cas où cette place serait cernée, l'Empereur viendrait en personne la dégager, 366. — (9 janvier.) Troupes à laisser à Danzig, dans le cas d'une évacuation de la Vistule par l'armée française, 380. — (11 janvier.) Ordre de nommer, dans cette place, un commandant en second, 382. — (18 janvier.) Ressources assurées par Danzig aux corps de la Grande Armée cantonnés sur la Vistule, 405. — (22 janvier.) Confiance de Napoléon dans les immenses approvisionnements de Danzig et dans la durée de la résistance que cette place peut opposer à l'ennemi, 419. — (25 janvier.) Composition et force de la garnison de Danzig; ordre d'envoyer un officier inspecter l'état des choses dans cette place, 442. — (26 janvier.) Avis au vice-roi des intentions agressives des Russes contre Danzig, 457. — (27 janvier.) Conjectures de l'Empereur sur la force de la garnison de Danzig en hommes et en artillerie, et sur l'époque probable où l'ennemi, après avoir investi cette place, pourrait en commencer le siége; facilités de temps laissées en conséquence à Napoléon pour se porter sur ce point, 461, 463, 464.

Daru (Comte), ministre secrétaire d'État, chargé des fonctions d'intendant général de la Grande Armée, 256, 299, 323, 330, 356, 380, 417, 445, 468. — V. Guerre (Administration de la).

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Davout, duc d'Auerstaedt, prince d'Eckmühl, maréchal, commandant le 1er corps de la Grande Armée. — (1er juillet 1812.) Instructions à Davout sur la direction à donner aux colonnes chargées de poursuivre Bagration; ce maréchal devra tomber sur le centre des Russes, 4. — Précaution recommandée au prince d'Eckmühl dans son mouvement contre Bagration, 5. — (3 juillet.) Ordre à Davout de se réunir à Grouchy, 14. — (5 juillet.) Le prince d'Eckmühl à Vologine, 18. — (6 juillet.) Éventualité d'une rencontre de Davout et de Bagration à Minsk; le prince d'Eckmühl sera renforcé en conséquence, 20. — Ordre pour la translation à Minsk de tous les services appartenant au quartier général de Davout, 21. — Marche du prince d'Eckmühl contre Bagration, 22. — Ordre de Napoléon déférant au maréchal Davout le commandement supérieur des 1er, 5e, 7e et 8e corps d'armée, et du 4e corps de réserve de cavalerie, pendant tout le temps qu'ils seront réunis, 24. — (7 juillet.) Départ pour Ochmiana du quartier général de Davout, 29. — Positions occupées, au 7 juillet, par le prince d'Eckmühl, 30. — (8 juillet.) Marche de Davout sur Minsk, 36. — Arrivée probable de ce maréchal dans cette ville, 36. — (9 juillet.) Ordre à Davout de se diriger sur Borisof et Orcha pour fermer à Bagration le passage du Dniepr et le forcer à un long détour; divisions qui concourront à cette manœuvre; dissémination temporaire des forces du prince d'Eckmühl, 43. — (10 juillet.) Davout devra manœuvrer pour tourner la tête de pont de Borisof, 48. — (11 juillet.) Importance que l'Empereur attache à la prise de Borisof par le prince d'Eckmühl; ce maréchal se dirigera ensuite sur Kokhanovo, afin de pouvoir se porter de là sur Mohilef, Vitebsk ou Orcha, 48. — Avis à Mortier de la marche de Davout sur la Berezina, 49. — Même avis au prince Eugène, 53. — (14 juillet.) Arrivée du prince d'Eckmühl à Borisof, 60. — Satisfaction causée à l'Empereur par l'occupation de Borisof, 61. — (15 juillet.) Prises en chevaux, voitures, pièces d'artillerie et munitions de guerre faites par Davout à Borisof et à Kholoni, 62. — (16 juillet.) Le prince d'Eckmühl marche sur Igoumen pour tomber sur le flanc de Bagration, 64. — L'Empereur recommande à Davout, arrivé à Igoumen, de se tenir en correspondance avec lui et avec le vice-roi, et d'éviter, dans sa marche sur Orcha, les marais de Bobrouisk, 67. — (19 juillet.) Ordre d'informer Davout de l'évacuation du camp de Drissa par les Russes, 74. — (20 juillet.) Représentations de l'Em-

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Garde impériale. — (1er juillet 1812.) Position assignée à Mortier et à la 1re division de la Garde pour favoriser la poursuite contre-Bagration, 4. — (7 juillet.) Le départ de la Garde, de Vilna, commencera le 9 juillet; approvisionnements qu'elle doit emporter, 25. — (8 juillet.) Ordre à Clarke de compléter à Paris, en faisant appel aux cohortes, deux régiments de la Garde, qui seront ensuite dirigés sur Berlin; le ministre de la guerre enverra en outre un état de situation hebdomadaire des dépôts de la Garde, 33. — (11 juillet.) Instructions au duc de Trévise, en vue du prochain départ de la jeune Garde, 49. — La Garde quittera Vilna le 12 et le 13 pour se diriger sur Gloubokoïé; la jeune Garde prendra la route de Mikhalichki, la vieille Garde celle de Sventsiany; toutes deux emporteront des vivres pour sept jours, 51, 52. — (15 juillet.) Toute la Garde marche sur Gloubokoïé, 62. — (16 juillet.) Les divisions de la Garde se dirigeront vers le roi de Naples, dans le cas où il serait attaqué par les Russes, 67. — (18 juillet.) Arrivée de la Garde à Gloubokoïé, 70. — (19 juillet.) L'Empereur songe à la diriger sur la gauche du vice-roi, 75. — (20 juillet.) Avis à Davout de ce mouvement de la Garde, 82. — (21 juillet.) Arrivée d'une partie de la Garde à Ouchatch, 84. — Ordre pour le départ de Gloubokoïé des chasseurs à pied et des grenadiers de la Garde, 85. — (31 juillet.) Marche de la Garde pour rejoindre le 8e corps, 110. — (8 août.) Ordre au major général de faire filer de Biéchenkovitchi sur Vitebsk tout ce qui appartient à la Garde, 131. — (10 août.) Date fixée pour le départ de la Garde de Vitebsk, 136. — Ordre concernant le mouvement de la vieille Garde sur Babinovitchi, 141. — Le régiment des flanqueurs de la Garde restera en garnison dans Vitebsk, 142. — (12 août.) La jeune Garde suivra le mouvement de la vieille Garde, 153. — (23 août.) Prochain départ de la Garde de Smolensk, 169. — (24 août.) Ordres relatifs à la mise en marche de la Garde sur Dorogobouje, 169. — Division de la Garde laissée provisoirement à Smolensk, 171. — (26 août.) Elle marchera en seconde ligne dans l'ordre de bataille, 180. — (27 août.) La Garde est attendue à Slavkovo, 184. — (29 août.) Ordre à la Garde de se rendre à Viazma, 188. — (31 août.) Mouvement de la Garde sur Ghjatsk, 191, 192. — (1er septembre.) La division de la Garde laissée dans Smolensk recevra l'ordre de rejoindre, 194. — (2 septembre.) Bataillons de marche et artillerie de la Garde à expédier de Smolensk sur Ghjatsk, 199. — (4 septembre.) Ordre à la vieille Garde de quitter Ghjatsk, 206. — (6 septembre.) Ordre pour l'attaque des redoutes russes de Borodino par l'artillerie de la Garde, 206. — (9 septembre.) Les voltigeurs de la Garde se rendront de Vitebsk à Smolensk, 208. — (15 septembre.) La vieille Garde est chargée d'occuper le Kremlin, 218. — (21 septembre.) Envoi des lanciers de la Garde en reconnaissance sur la route de Podolsk, 223. — Appel sur Moscou du régiment des flanqueurs de la Garde, 224. — (25 septembre.) Tandis que la vieille Garde restera au Kremlin, la jeune Garde contribuera au service militaire de la place de Moscou, 230.

— (... octobre.) Rôle assigné à la Garde dans la manœuvre offensive au moyen de laquelle Napoléon projette de rétrograder de Moscou tout en menaçant Saint-Pétersbourg, 237, 238. — (8 octobre.) Appel sur Magdeburg du 2e régiment de voltigeurs, du 2e de tirailleurs, et de régiments de marche à former des diverses troupes de la Garde, 260. — (18 octobre.) Départ de la Garde à cheval de Moscou, 270. — Le reste de la Garde partira le lendemain, 271. — Détachement de la Garde chargé de garder Moscou après le départ de l'armée, 272. — (22 octobre.) Arrivée prochaine de la Garde à Fominskiya, 283. — (30 octobre.) Ordres concernant la marche de la Garde dans le mouvement général de retraite de l'armée; elle se dirigera de Ghjatsk sur Velitchevo, 293. — (7 novembre.) Cantonnements assignés à la Garde près de Smolensk, 302. — (9 novembre.) Ordre de la rallier dans cette ville, 305, 306. — (24 novembre.) Départ de la Garde de Bobr pour Borisof, 315. — (25 novembre.) Heure fixée pour le mouvement de la Garde sur Nemanitsa, 318. — L'Empereur projette de forcer le passage de la Berezina avec la Garde impériale, 318. — (3 décembre.) 29e *Bulletin de la Grande Armée :* éloges accordés par Napoléon à la belle conduite de la Garde pendant la retraite; consistance exceptionnelle de ce corps au milieu de la désorganisation générale, 328, 329. — (24 décembre.) Dispositions pour réduire la Garde à deux divisions; une partie des cadres seront renvoyés en France ou à Mayence, où ils seront réorganisés et remontés, 349. — (26 décembre.) Ordres pour la reconstitution d'une artillerie de réserve de la Garde, 352, 353. — (30 décembre.) Nouveaux ordres à Berthier pour le renvoi en France d'une partie de la Garde, elle y sera facilement remontée, 357. — (3 janvier 1813.) Instructions relatives à l'organisation de six batteries de la Garde impériale; les hommes seront tirés des cohortes; les équipages militaires, entièrement détruits, seront aussi reformés, 360, 361. — (7 janvier.) Remplaçants à incorporer dans la jeune Garde, 375. — (9 janvier.) Création de deux nouveaux régiments de la Garde; autres mesures pour la réparation des pertes subies par cette milice d'élite, 379, 380. — (11 janvier.) Ordre de réduire provisoirement l'infanterie de la Garde à une seule division sous les ordres de Roguet, 382. — (16 janvier.) Instructions relatives au recrutement de la Garde, qui sera organisée en trois divisions, 396. — (18 janvier.) Ordre d'incorporer dans le 3e régiment de lanciers de la Garde les 500 chasseurs offerts à Napoléon par la ville de Paris; — répartition à faire entre les différentes armes de la Garde du contingent de chevaux fourni par Paris dans la réquisition générale pour les remontes de l'armée, 398. — Réfutation des faux rapports russes sur les prétendues prises faites sur la Garde durant la retraite, 404. — (20 janvier.) Avis au major général des mesures prises pour la réorganisation de la Garde, 409. — (22 janvier.) Instructions au vice-roi sur le même sujet; ordre de renvoyer à Mayence les cadres et les généraux inutiles; adjonction à la Garde impériale de la garde italienne et de la garde napolitaine; bataillons à laisser dans Stettin; le commandement général sera déféré au duc de Trévise, 417, 418. — (23 janvier.) Ordre de donner à la Garde tous les chevaux fournis par la ville de Paris, 427. — (24 janvier.) L'Empereur renouvelle au prince Eugène ses instructions touchant la reconstitution de la Garde impériale et les cadres et généraux à renvoyer, 436, 437. — (27 janvier.) Napoléon, en réorganisant la Garde, compte en doubler l'effectif, 464. — (6 février.) Adjonction des régiments de cavalerie lithuanienne aux lanciers polonais de la Garde; effectif actuel de cette arme, 490, 491. — (7 février.) Ordre de distribuer un million de francs entre les généraux et officiers de la Garde, comme indemnité pour leurs pertes de la dernière campagne, 491. — (9 février.) Le général Barrois est chargé de commander la 1re division de la jeune Garde; composition de cette division; artillerie, génie, administration, cavalerie, service de santé, 504 à 506. — Ordres sur le même sujet; question concernant l'état de situation de la vieille Garde, 507.

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aux ouvrages du génie dans ces places ; rayon déterminé pour les réquisitions, 476. — (6 février.) Ordre de nommer un général du génie au corps d'observation de l'Elbe, 486. — (9 février.) Organisation du génie de la jeune Garde, 504. — Envoi à Magdeburg et à Spandau d'un officier chargé d'inspecter les travaux du génie dans ces places, 508.

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GLOUBOKOÏÉ, bourg de Russie, quartier général de l'Empereur du 18 au 23 juillet 1812. V. GRANDE ARMÉE. (*Opérations défensives de la.*)

GOUVION SAINT-CYR (Comte DE), général, puis maréchal, commandant le 6e corps de la Grande Armée. — (9 juillet 1812.) Le vice-roi dirigera Gouvion Saint-Cyr sur Dokchitsy, 42. — (10 juillet.) Ordre à ce général de se porter vers Dounilovitchi, par Vilna, 46. — (11 juillet.) Avis au prince Eugène du mouvement prescrit à Gouvion Saint-Cyr, 53. — (14 juillet.) Ce général dirigera sa cavalerie légère sur Gloubokoïé, afin d'appuyer Lefebvre et de faire le plus de prises possible à l'ennemi, en train d'évacuer ses magasins, 59, 60. — (16 juillet.) Ordre à Gouvion Saint-Cyr de hâter son mouvement, 67. — (3 août.) Il se portera sur Polotsk pour renforcer le duc de Reggio, 118. — (24 août.) Récompenses promises au corps de Gouvion Saint-Cyr, 172. — (26 août.) Forces dont ce général dispose pour tenir Wittgenstein en échec ; il sera, au besoin, secouru par le duc de Bellune, 181, 182. — (10 septembre.) Ordre à Gouvion Saint-Cyr de poursuivre Wittgenstein, qu'on suppose en marche pour se porter sur le flanc gauche de Napoléon, 209. — Indication des lieux où le corps de Gouvion Saint-Cyr s'approvisionnera ; possibilité pour ce maréchal de culbuter l'armée de Wittgenstein, en se concertant avec Macdonald, 209, 212. — (... octobre.) Mouvement prescrit à Gouvion Saint-Cyr dans la grande manœuvre offensive conçue par Napoléon à Moscou ; ce maréchal partirait de Polotsk pour rejoindre le duc de Bellune à Velikié-Louki, 237, 238. — (6 octobre.) Le maréchal Saint-Cyr est menacé à Polotsk par les Russes ; le duc de Bellune est chargé de le secourir au besoin, 252, 253. — (25 janvier 1813.) Formation d'un corps d'auxiliaires sous les ordres de Gouvion Saint-Cyr (6e corps), 442, 443. — (29 janvier.) Ce maréchal prendra le commandement de l'avant-garde à la place de Ney, revenu à Paris, 467. — (8 février.) Le corps prussien sera sous ses ordres, 502. — (26 février.) L'Empereur compte sur Gouvion Saint-Cyr pour arrêter le mouvement des Cosaques sur Berlin, 547. — V. GRANDE ARMÉE (*Opérations offensives de la*).

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GRANDE ARMÉE (*Bataillons et régiments de marche de la*). V. RÉGIMENTS ET BRIGADES DE MARCHE (*de la Grande Armée*).

GRANDE ARMÉE (*Derrières de la*). — (26 août 1812.) Renforts envoyés à Minsk pour maintenir, de concert avec la division Dombrowski et les garnisons de Vitebsk, Kovno et Smolensk, la liberté des communications sur les derrières de l'armée ; le maréchal Victor prendra position avec son corps entre le Dniepr et la Dvina et secourra Gouvion Saint-Cyr dans le cas où ce général serait battu par Wittgenstein, 181, 182. — Réitération des ordres précédents, 183. — (27 août.) Troupes et artillerie à diriger sur Smolensk pour en assurer la défense ; courant continuel de renforts destinés à former des réserves successives sur les derrières de la Grande Armée, 185. — (29 août.) Postes retranchés à établir à Goredikino, Sloboda-Pnevo, Mikhaïlovka, Dorogobouje, Slavkovo et Semlevo, pour assurer les communications et le service des estafettes sur les derrières de l'armée, 187, 188. — (1er septembre.) Ordre d'établir, dans cette vue, des patrouilles sur la route de Smolensk à Moscou ; cou-

rant d'informations à maintenir entre Vitebsk et l'armée par Smolensk, 194. — Nécessité de hâter, pour éviter tout péril, l'organisation des troupes nationales en Lithuanie, 195. — (2 septembre.) Mouvements de troupes pour les garnisons de Smolensk, Viazma et Ghjatsk; avec elles, Baraguey d'Hilliers pourra maintenir la liberté des routes, en correspondant avec le maréchal Victor et Dombrowski, 200, 201. — (11 septembre.) Troupes qui resteront chargées de garder les derrières de l'armée après l'appel en avant des diverses forces demeurées en deçà de Smolensk, 213. — Suite des ordres concernant la concentration des forces sur Smolensk et Varsovie; désignation des troupes qui resteront cantonnées entre le Rhin et Smolensk, 214, 215. — (21 septembre.) Appel sur Moscou des troupes réunies d'abord sur Smolensk, 224, 225. — (23 septembre.) Règlement concernant l'escorte et le campement des convois expédiés de Smolensk à Moscou; ordre du jour à dresser en conséquence, 227. — (6 octobre.) Le duc de Bellune est chargé de maintenir, de Smolensk, la communication avec Moscou, et de couvrir, au besoin, Minsk et Vilna; — la place d'Orcha est couverte par une division, et Dombrowski continue de surveiller Bobrouisk; — arrivée prochaine de la division Durutte à Varsovie et de la division Loison à Kœnigsberg; — mouvement sur Vilna d'un régiment westphalien et de deux bataillons de Darmstadt, 253, 254. — (14 octobre.) Ordre d'arrêter dorénavant à Smolensk, Mojaïsk, Ghjatsk et Viazma toute artillerie et cavalerie dirigée sur Moscou; abandon prochain de cette route par l'armée, 264. — (11 novembre.) Ordre à Dombrowski de se charger spécialement de défendre Minsk, 307. — (19 novembre.) Manœuvres prescrites à Victor et à Oudinot, en vue d'empêcher les Russes de couper à Napoléon la ligne de la Berezina, 311. — V. Lithuanie, Smolensk.

Grande Armée (*Opérations offensives de la*). — (1er juillet 1812.) Mouvement de Bagration sur Sventsiany; l'Empereur lance trois colonnes à sa poursuite; direction prescrite à ces colonnes; généraux chargés de les commander, 4. — Apparition des Cosaques à Pavlovo et à Tourgheli; ordre à Davout de se faire appuyer par la division Morand, 5. — Ordre à Morand de s'établir fortement au pont de Mikhalichki, 5. — Position du corps de Bagration; ordre au vice-roi de hâter sa marche en avant pour prendre part, au besoin, aux premières opérations, 6. — (2 juillet.) Dispositions relatives à l'enterrement des cadavres d'hommes et de chevaux gisant à Vilna et sur les routes, 7. — Retards apportés dans le mouvement du prince Eugène, arrêté au passage du Niemen; l'Empereur presse sa jonction avec le corps du roi Jérôme, 8. — Ordre à Macdonald de se porter sur Poneveje et de nouer des communications avec le duc de Reggio; — l'équipage de siége devra être transporté de Memel et de Tilsit à Riga, 8. — Prochaine attaque du corps de Doktourof par le général Nansouty, 10. — Marche en avant de Grouchy; mouvement rétrograde de l'ennemi, 11. — Positions occupées par la Grande Armée au 3 juillet; retraite de Platof et des Cosaques; incertitude de l'Empereur au sujet de la direction prise par les corps ennemis, 13. — (5 juillet.) Avance de quatre jours de marche prise par les Russes sur le roi de Westphalie; ne pouvant être arrêtés par Davout, ils auront le temps d'effectuer leur retraite; vif déplaisir de Napoléon, qui craint de perdre ainsi le fruit de ses manœuvres, 19. — Copie d'une lettre du roi Jérôme; renseignements qu'elle donne sur les mouvements de l'aile droite de la Grande Armée et sur la route suivie par Bagration et Platof, 20. — (6 juillet.) Au cas où la tête du corps de Bagration rencontrerait Davout à Minsk, ce maréchal serait soutenu par la cavalerie légère du vice-roi, par celle des Bavarois et par les divisions Claparède, Compans, Dessaix, Valence, Lahoussaye et Grouchy; il paraît toutefois probable à Napoléon que Bagration, déjà pressé en queue, évitera Minsk par un détour, 21. — Marche des divers corps chargés de coopérer au mouvement de Davout contre Bagration; nécessité de rejeter les Russes dans les marais de Pinsk ou sur Mohilef, afin de les devancer à Vitebsk; — l'intention de l'Empereur

est de menacer Moscou en marchant sur Smolensk ; — pendant qu'il exécutera ce mouvement tournant par sa droite, le roi de Naples se portera sur Vidzy, en débordant toujours l'ennemi par sa gauche, sans toutefois engager d'affaire importante, 23. — Ordre de Napoléon rangeant, en cas de jonction, le roi de Westphalie sous le commandement supérieur du prince d'Eckmühl, 24. — (7 juillet.) Berthier réitérera au roi Jérôme l'ordre d'accélérer sa marche, 24. — La Garde partira le 9 de Vilna ; elle devra emporter avec elle pour dix jours de vivres, 25. — Positions occupées par les divers corps au 7 juillet ; ordre au vice-roi d'appuyer celui qui aura besoin de ses secours contre Bagration, 30. — (8 juillet.) Les avant-postes de l'armée sont sur la Dvina, 36. — La retraite de Bagration, d'après les rapports reçus, se ferait sur Mir ; — marche du prince d'Eckmühl dans la direction de Minsk, et du vice-roi sur Ochmiana, 36. — Léger engagement, à Novogroudok, entre la cavalerie légère de Latour-Maubourg et l'arrière-garde de Bagration ; — entrée de Davout à Minsk, 36. — (9 juillet.) Privations endurées par les Polonais à la poursuite de Bagration ; leurs plaintes ; réponse de Napoléon à Poniatowski, 37. — Position des divers corps de la Grande Armée au 9 juillet ; intention de l'Empereur de marcher sur Moscou et Saint-Pétersbourg ; l'effet de ce mouvement sera de rejeter en dehors de la Courlande les Russes établis à Dinabourg, et de permettre à Macdonald de passer la Dvina et de faire le blocus de Riga ; — l'occupation de cette place et de la Courlande, pays riche en ressources, est indispensable pour les opérations ultérieures de la campagne, 39 à 41. — Le but du mouvement prescrit au prince Eugène sur Polotsk ou Vitebsk est l'occupation de la Livonie, d'où l'on menacera à la fois les deux capitales de la Russie ; beauté et richesse de la contrée où le vice-roi va pénétrer ; facilités qu'offre le passage de la Dvina ; — retraite des Russes sur Bobrouisk, 42. — Instructions à Davout sur le plan général des opérations entamées : tandis que le vice-roi s'avancera sur Polotsk et Vitebsk, Macdonald sur Riga, et que Jérôme continuera de poursuivre Bagration, le prince d'Eckmühl manœuvrera de façon à rejeter au delà du Dniepr le général russe, obligé dès lors à un long détour pour rejoindre le corps de Barclay ; — quant à ce dernier corps, il sera forcé lui-même, par suite des manœuvres de Napoléon, de reculer pour couvrir Saint-Pétersbourg, 43. — (10 juillet.) Ordre au vice-roi d'accélérer sa marche sur la Dvina, afin d'y arriver avant Bagration, 46, 47. — Manœuvres à faire pour tourner la tête de pont de Borisof et déjouer un mouvement possible de Bagration derrière la Berezina, 48. — (11 juillet.) La conséquence de l'occupation de Borisof par Davout sera de fermer à Bagration le chemin de la Berezina, et probablement de l'obliger à passer le Dniepr pour essayer de gagner Smolensk avant les Français, 48. — Le maréchal Mortier reçoit l'ordre de quitter Vilna avec la jeune Garde, 49. — Ordre à Reynier de suspendre sa marche sur Nesvije, afin de couvrir le grand-duché de Varsovie, menacé par deux divisions russes restées en Volhynie, 50, 51. — Instructions concernant le mouvement de la Garde de Vilna sur Gloubokoïé ; la jeune Garde, avec Mortier, passera par Mikhalichki ; la vieille Garde, commandée par le duc de Danzig, prendra la route de Sventsiany ; toutes deux emporteront pour plusieurs jours de vivres, 51, 52. — (12 juillet.) Le général Campredon est chargé du siége de Riga ; dispositions à prendre pour transporter devant cette place l'équipage de siége de Danzig, 56. — Avis au prince Schwarzenberg de la position des divers corps ; date fixée pour le passage de la Dvina ; l'Empereur compte devancer Bagration à Mohilef, 57. — (14 juillet.) Ordre de pousser des reconnaissances de cavalerie sur Gloubokoïé, Loujki, Disna et Vitebsk, afin de faire sur l'ennemi, en train d'évacuer ses magasins, le plus grand nombre de prises possible, 59, 60. — (15 juillet.) Captures considérables faites à Kholoni ; — l'intention de l'Empereur est de manœuvrer sur la haute Dvina pour tourner les camps retranchés de Drissa et de Dinabourg, 62, 63. — (16 juillet.) Ordre à Macdonald de prendre position devant Dina-

bourg, afin de pouvoir contenir la garnison de cette ville, dans le cas où l'Empereur perdrait une bataille sur la Dvina; si, au contraire, les Russes se repliaient sans combattre sur Saint-Pétersbourg, le duc de Tarente passerait le fleuve près de Dinabourg et menacerait en même temps cette ville et Riga, 64, 65. — Mesures à prendre pour soutenir le roi de Naples dans le cas où il serait attaqué par les Russes près d'Ikazni, 67. — (17 juillet.) Cessation des démonstrations offensives de l'ennemi contre le corps de Murat, 67. — (18 juillet.) L'Empereur pense que les Russes se portent sur Polotsk, afin de ne pas se laisser couper de Saint-Pétersbourg; ordre au vice-roi de placer de la cavalerie dans cette direction, 71, 72. — (19 juillet.) Évacuation du camp retranché de Drissa par Barclay de Tolly et retraite des Russes sur Polotsk; ordre à Eugène Napoléon de se porter vers Kamen, tandis que Nansouty interceptera la route de Polotsk et que l'aile gauche de l'armée marchera sur Disna, 72. — L'Empereur réitère ses ordres au vice-roi, 72; — conjecture sur la prochaine arrivée des Bavarois, 73. — Ordre à Nansouty d'établir sa cavalerie de Polotsk à Disna, 74. — Arrivée de la cavalerie légère bavaroise; elle sera chargée d'appuyer la gauche du vice-roi, 75. — (20 juillet.) Entrée à Orcha; prise de magasins dans cette ville, 78. — Marche sur Vitebsk, 82. — Ordre à Poniatowski et au maréchal Davout de se réunir à Mohilef pour y attaquer Bagration; le prince d'Eckmühl doit aussi être en mesure de battre Doktourof, si ce général s'est porté sur Orcha, 82. — (21 juillet.) Avis à Eblé du passage de la Dvina à Disna, 83. — Concentration prochaine de 150,000 hommes sur Biéchenkovitchi, 83. — Dispositions diverses en prévision d'une bataille, 85. — Mouvement du corps de Nansouty et des divisions Morand, Bruyère, Gudin et Friant; ordre au vice-roi de hâter la rénnion de ses troupes sur Kamen et d'éviter toute échauffourée de cavalerie avec les Cosaques; l'Empereur ignore encore si l'ennemi se portera sur Biéchenkovitchi ou directement sur Vitebsk, 84. — Importance que Napoléon attache à la prise de Biéchenkovitchi; forces dirigées sur ce point; tête de pont à y établir, 86. — (22 juillet.) Entrée du prince d'Eckmühl, après un combat, à Mohilef; retraite précipitée de la grande armée russe dans la direction de Moscou, 87, 88. — L'Empereur pense que Saint-Pétersbourg et Moscou étant déjà menacés, les Russes ne sauraient songer à prendre l'offensive ni à inquiéter le grand-duché de Varsovie; éventualité d'un mouvement d'une partie de la Grande Armée sur la Volhynie, 90. — Ordre d'informer Reynier de la prise du camp de Drissa et de la marche sur Vitebsk, 94. — Hypothèse concernant la solidité de la position de Grouchy à Orcha; — ordre à Davout d'attendre, à tout hasard, l'attaque de Bagration à Mohilef; — probabilité d'un effort des deux armées russes pour se réunir à Smolensk, 95. — (23 juillet.) Ordre à Oudinot de marcher contre Wittgenstein, et d'établir, aussitôt qu'il le pourra, son quartier général à Polotsk, 97. — (24 juillet.) Importance que l'Empereur attache à la prise de Vitebsk; le prince Eugène marchera de Biéchenkovitchi sur cette ville, où l'armée pourra se reposer, 98, 99. — (25 juillet.) Combat d'avant-garde à Ostrovno; pertes essuyées par les Russes, 100. — Positions assignées aux généraux Guyon et Grouchy sur la droite de l'armée, 100. — (26 juillet.) Ordre au roi de Naples de s'avancer près de Vitebsk; il sera soutenu par le vice-roi; intention de l'Empereur de laisser Barclay opérer la réunion de ses corps, dans l'espérance que cette jonction le décidera à livrer bataille, 100. — Napoléon se met en marche sur Vitebsk, où il compte trouver les Russes concentrés; ressources abondantes offertes par le pays qu'il traverse, 101. — Le maréchal Ney laissera une de ses divisions à Biéchenkovitchi, et ébranlera le reste de son corps dans la direction de Vitebsk, 101. — (29 juillet.) Avis à Maret de l'entrée de Napoléon à Vitebsk; retraite des Russes sur Smolensk; importance capitale des positions occupées par la Grande Armée entre la Dvina et le Dniepr, 103. — Ordre à Grouchy et à Davout d'établir des communications rapides avec l'Empereur; marche du prince d'Eck-

mühl contre les Russes à Chklof, 104. — Ordre à Davout d'occuper Orcha et d'y établir une tête de pont sur le Dniepr; projet d'accorder à l'armée un repos de quelques jours, pendant lesquels on organiserait les magasins, 104. — (30 juillet.) Ordre à Schwarzenberg d'occuper Minsk; le général Grouchy, appuyé par la division Gudin, gardera, de son côté, Babinovitchi et Lioubavitchi, et couvrira la rive droite du Borysthène, 107. — Importance d'une ligne d'opération sur Orcha pour garder la route de Smolensk; Napoléon renonce à devancer Bagration dans cette ville, afin de laisser reposer l'armée, 108. — (1er août.) Investissement de Riga par Macdonald, 114. — Échauffourée entre la cavalerie du prince Eugène et les Russes, 115. — (2 août.) Établissement des avant-postes sur Smolensk, 116. — (3 août.) Echec subi par Reynier à Kobrine; ordre à Schwarzenberg de se porter au secours des Saxons en Volhynie, 117. — Le maréchal Oudinot, renforcé du corps de Gouvion Saint-Cyr, est chargé de chasser Wittgenstein de la rive droite de la Dvina, 118. — Succès divers remportés par le duc de Reggio sur les troupes de Wittgenstein, 120. — (6 août.) Intention de l'Empereur de marcher prochainement sur Smolensk et de livrer bataille aux Russes, s'ils n'évacuent pas leur position, 127. — Il interroge Davout sur la route qu'il convient de prendre pour effectuer ce mouvement; s'il s'opère par la rive gauche du Dniepr, il importe d'avoir des ponts nombreux et bien établis, 127, 128. — (7 août.) Mouvement rétrograde d'Oudinot après sa victoire de Jakoubovo; mécontentement de l'Empereur à ce sujet, 130. — (9 août.) Le maréchal Davout fera le tracé des différentes routes à suivre pour se porter sur Smolensk; utilité d'effectuer cette marche sur deux colonnes, 131. — A la suite d'un mouvement offensif des Russes sur Inkovo, Napoléon prend des mesures pour concentrer l'armée à Liozno, 132. — L'Empereur demande des renseignements sur une route longeant la rive gauche du Dniepr, 133. — Engagement de cavalerie entre la division Sebastiani et les Russes, près de Smolensk; — Napoléon compte toujours sur une bataille en cet endroit, 134. — (10 août.) Jugement porté par l'Empereur sur la dernière rencontre de cavalerie, 136. — Position assignée aux divisions Gudin, Morand et Friant, entre Liozno et Rossasna; Napoléon compte marcher sur Smolensk avec 200,000 hommes; il désirerait que ce mouvement pût s'opérer sur trois colonnes, 137. — Ordres et instructions concernant le mouvement général de l'armée vers Rossasna, point choisi pour le passage du Dniepr, 141. — — Marche des divisions Friant, Gudin et Morand vers le Dniepr, 143. — Les Russes continuent à se retirer devant l'armée, 145. — Ordre dans lequel s'effectuera le mouvement des divers corps vers Smolensk; l'avant-garde sera formée par le duc d'Elchingen, 145. — (12 août.) Commencement du mouvement général, 152. — Instructions à Davout en prévision d'une grande bataille, 155, 156. — (15 août.) L'Empereur marche de sa personne sur Smolensk; combat de Krasnoï, 156. — (18 août.) Prise de Smolensk; pertes considérables essuyées par les Russes; leur retraite dans la direction de Moscou, 157. — (19 août.) Victoire remportée sur Tormasof, à Gorodeczna, par Schwarzenberg et Reynier réunis, 159. — (20 août.) Reconnaissances à pousser par Grouchy sur les routes de Roudnia et de Yanovitchi; ce général se portera, avec la plus grande partie de ses forces, sur Doukhovchtchina, 162. — (21 août.) Positions à prendre par les divisions de Latour-Maubourg pour assurer la défense des places situées sur les derrières de l'armée; utilité d'occuper la place de Roslavl, 163. — (22 août.) Le général Grouchy est chargé de prendre des renseignements sur les manœuvres de l'ennemi, 164. — Ordre concernant le mouvement en avant de divers corps, le long du Dniepr; prochaine réunion de toute l'armée sur Dorogobouje, point où l'Empereur compte qu'une grande bataille sera livrée, 167, 168, 169. — (24 août.) Suite des ordres relatifs au mouvement de l'armée dans la direction de Dorogobouje; troupes laissées dans Smolensk, 170, 171. — L'ennemi semble prendre position, pour une bataille, sur

la route de Moscou, 172. — Ordre à Latour-Maubourg de hâter sa marche pour participer à la prochaine bataille; le soin de couvrir Minsk est confié à Dombrowski; — même ordre aux divisions Pino et Pajol, 173. — (26 août.) Distribution des divers corps pour la marche sur Viazma : la première ligne sera formée par le vice-roi, Murat, Davout, Grouchy et Poniatowski; la deuxième, par Ney, la Garde et Junot, 179, 180, 182. — Ressources offertes par le pays de Dorogobouje; — Napoléon compte sur une bataille à Viazma, 183. — (27 août.) Etablissement du quartier impérial à Slavkovo; envoi en avant de la division Compans; Davout, Ney et la Garde sont attendus par l'Empereur, 184, 185. — (29 août.) Ordres relatifs au mouvement général sur Viazma, 187 à 189. — Entrée des Français à Viazma; les Russes continuent leur retraite sur Moscou, 189. — (30 août.) Napoléon compte toujours sur une prochaine bataille; ordres, en conséquence, pour la réparation des ponts sur toutes les rivières et les ravins de la route suivie par l'armée, 190, 191. — Suite du mouvement des divers corps, manœuvre tournante prescrite, en cas de bataille, au vice-roi et à Poniatowski, 191. — (1er septembre.) Ordre du jour pour la marche de l'armée, 196. — (2 septembre.) L'Empereur ordonne aux chefs de corps de rallier les troupes, d'en faire l'appel et de dresser un état général, en vue de la grande bataille imminente, 198. — (6 septembre.) Ordre pour la bataille de la Moskova; dispositions prises pour concentrer le feu de l'artillerie contre les deux redoutes des Russes; rôle tracé, dans l'attaque, aux généraux Pernety, Compans, Sorbier, Dessaix, Friant et Foucher; manœuvres prescrites à Poniatowski et aux divisions du vice-roi, 206. — (7 septembre.) Proclamation faite à l'armée, des hauteurs de Borodino, 207. — (9 septembre.) Résultats de la bataille de la Moskova; pertes respectives des Russes et des Français, 207. — (10 septembre.) L'Empereur pense que les divers corps russes se replieront sur Moscou, pour en défendre l'abord; ordres en conséquence, 209. — (11 septembre.) Appel sur Smolensk et Moscou de divers corps et détachements restés sur les derrières de l'armée; réserve constituée par le corps du duc de Bellune, 213, 214, 215. — (13 septembre.) Mouvement combiné des corps de Murat, Eugène et Poniatowski, sur Moscou, 217. — (14 septembre.) Entrée à Moscou, 217. — (15 septembre.) Napoléon distribue l'armée dans les divers quartiers de la ville, 217, 218. — Avant-postes à établir sur la route de Saint-Pétersbourg, 218. — (20 septembre.) Napoléon dénonce au czar la destruction de Moscou par les incendiaires de Rostopchine, 221. — (21 septembre.) Corps de cavalerie envoyés à la recherche de l'ennemi sur les routes de Podolsk, Bronnitsy et Kolomna; des partis s'avanceront dans la direction de Bogorodsk au nord, et de Kalouga au midi, 223, 224. — Ordre de diriger sur Moscou toutes les forces concentrées jusqu'ici sur Smolensk, 224, 225. — (24 septembre.) Le général Saint-Sulpice est chargé de maintenir libre la route de Mojaïsk à Moscou, 229. — (29 septembre.) Manœuvres combinées de Murat et de Bessières, à la recherche des Russes, au sud de Moscou, 232. — (... octobre.) Impossibilité, pour l'Empereur, de rester à Moscou; examen des divers partis à prendre; inconvénients d'un retour par le chemin de Kalouga; raisons qu'il y aurait de préférer la route, déjà parcourue, par Viazma et Dorogobouje; rejet de ce plan et répugnance de Napoléon pour tout mouvement ayant l'apparence d'une retraite; — choix d'une manœuvre conçue de façon à rétablir les communications, à ramener l'armée sur la Pologne, centre de ses ressources, à conserver intact le prestige des armes françaises, et à les porter sur Saint-Pétersbourg par une marche menaçante qui appuierait les négociations commencées; — exposé de ce plan : d'une part, mouvement offensif du duc de Bellune, avec 70,000 hommes, sur Velikié-Louki; de l'autre, marche oblique de Napoléon sur Velije et mouvement de Ney et de Junot couvrant les régions évacuées, de Moscou à Smolensk; — échelonnement calculé des divers corps d'après ces manœuvres combinées; infériorité créée

ainsi à l'ennemi, obligé de se porter à notre poursuite en s'éloignant des secours attendus de Moldavie; — avantages offerts, à tout événement, par la position de Vélikié-Louki, 235 à 238. — (5 octobre.) Ordres relatifs à l'évacuation des blessés, 246, 247. — (6 octobre.) Le soin de procéder à l'évacuation est confié à Junot et à Baraguey-d'Hilliers, 247. — Envoi du 3e corps sur Bogorodsk, 249. — Partis de cavalerie et d'infanterie à lancer contre les Cosaques sur la route de Moscou, 250. — Position centrale assignée, à Smolensk, au duc de Bellune, en prévision des mouvements des Russes; dans le cas où les renforts venus de Moldavie se joindraient à l'armée de Koutousof, le maréchal Victor recevrait l'ordre de se réunir à l'Empereur par la route d'Yelnia et de Kalouga; si, au contraire, les divisions de Moldavie se portent en Volhynie pour renforcer Tormasof, le corps du duc de Bellune constituera, au centre des opérations, une réserve générale destinée à secourir soit le maréchal Gouvion Saint-Cyr et la place de Vilna, soit Schwarzenberg et le dépôt de Minsk, 252 à 254. — (14 octobre.) Ordre d'arrêter désormais à Smolensk, Mojaïsk, Ghjatsk et Viazma, toute l'artillerie et la cavalerie en route pour Moscou; l'armée va changer ses positions et abandonner la route de Mojaïsk, 264. — (16 octobre.) Intention de l'Empereur de marcher d'abord sur Kalouga, puis d'établir ses quartiers d'hiver entre le Borysthène et la Dvina; avantage de ce mouvement au point de vue d'une opération ultérieure contre Saint-Pétersbourg, 265, 266. — (17 octobre.) Appel de la division Baraguey-d'Hilliers sur Yelnia, 269. — (18 octobre.) Préparatifs d'exécution du mouvement général de l'armée, conformément au projet d'hivernage entre Smolensk, Minsk et Mohilef, 270. — Ordre aux divers corps de se tenir prêts à quitter Moscou le lendemain, 271. — Le duc de Trévise, chargé de garder Moscou, fera déclarer par la municipalité aux habitants que l'armée ne bat pas en retraite, mais se porte sur Kalouga, Toula et Briansk, pour s'emparer de ces points importants, 272. — (19 octobre.) Attaque de la division Sebastiani par les Cosaques, à Vinkovo; charges brillantes de Murat; mort du général Dery, 275. — Mise en marche de l'armée par la route de Desna, 276. — (20 octobre.) Ordre au duc de Trévise de se tenir prêt à faire sauter le Kremlin et à quitter Moscou pour se rendre à Mojaïsk, 278. — Le général Roguet est chargé, à l'arrière-garde, de barrer rigoureusement la route de Moscou, 279. — Mouvements prescrits au général Roguet, aux maréchaux Ney et Davout, aux princes Eugène et Poniatowski, 279, 280. — (21 octobre.) Ordre au maréchal Mortier, une fois rendu à Mojaïsk, de se diriger sur Vereya, où il servira d'intermédiaire entre le duc d'Abrantès et Borovsk, où l'armée aura prochainement son quartier général, 280. — Mouvements à exécuter par Murat et Ney pour accomplir le mouvement de gauche à droite destiné à les porter de la vieille route de Kalouga sur la nouvelle, 281, 282. — (22 octobre.) Présence du vice-roi à Fominskiya; ordre d'occuper Vereya, afin d'établir d'étroites communications entre l'armée et la route de Smolensk, sur laquelle Junot surveille les mouvements d'évacuation : l'Empereur espère avoir, par ses manœuvres, trompé l'ennemi, 283, 284. — Ordre à Ney de se maintenir au débouché des deux routes, à Gorki, pour achever de couvrir le mouvement par lequel l'armée se dérobe aux Russes, 284. — (23 octobre.) Arrivée d'Eugène à Borovsk; — envoi d'une colonne chargée d'assurer les communications entre Viazma et Youkhnof, point choisi, pour la jonction, sur la route de Kalouga, 285, 286. — Une fois à Kalouga, l'armée prendra sa ligne d'opération sur Yelnia, 286. — Conjectures au sujet du mouvement d'une colonne russe détachée du camp de Taroutino; ordre au général Delzons de s'emparer de la ville de Malo-Yaroslavetz, avant que l'ennemi découvre le secret de ses manœuvres, 286. — 26e *Bulletin de la Grande Armée* : résumé des événements militaires accomplis depuis la bataille de la Moskova; explication des derniers mouvements de l'armée; — évacuation de Moscou par le duc de Trévise; destruction du Kremlin; raisons d'humanité pour lesquelles Napoléon n'a point

relatifs à la réorganisation en une seule division du 8e corps commandé par Junot, 223. — Appel sur Moscou de toutes les forces concentrées récemment sur Smolensk, 224, 225. — (25 septembre.) Ordre de transporter à Rouza le dépôt de cavalerie de Mojaïsk; forte organisation défensive à donner au nouveau dépôt, 231. — (4 octobre.) Composition de la 28e division; divisions formant le 9e corps, 243. — (5 octobre.) Napoléon désire utiliser les compagnies de garnison de vaisseau pour les cadres de la Grande Armée; ordre à Clarke à ce sujet, 224. — Intention de l'Empereur d'appeler à l'armée les quatre régiments étrangers allemands demeurés en Italie et en Hollande, 244. — (6 octobre.) Réunion prochaine de la 32e division à Varsovie, et de la 34e à Kœnigsberg; leur force sera augmentée, 253. — Modifications à apporter à l'organisation du 9e corps, 254, 255. — (8 octobre.) Ordres relatifs à l'organisation de la division Durutte (32e), et de la 34e division, 257. — Appel sur Magdeburg du 2e régiment de voltigeurs, du 2e de tirailleurs, ainsi que de divers régiments de marche comprenant toutes les troupes disponibles en état de faire campagne, 260. — (9 novembre.) Ordre pour l'organisation d'un corps actif de cavalerie chargé de couvrir, pendant l'hiver, les cantonnements de l'armée, revenue de Moscou à Smolensk; composition des régiments, 303 à 305. — (11 novembre.) Dissolution du corps de Baraguey d'Hilliers; les troupes qui le composaient rejoindront leurs corps respectifs, 306. — (15 novembre.) Ordre au commandant des dépôts de Gorki, vu la retraite de l'armée, de se porter au delà du Dniepr, 310. — V. Artillerie, Équipages militaires, Génie, Guerre (Administration de la), Régiments et brigades de marche.

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Macdonald, duc de Tarente, maréchal commandant le 10e corps de la grande Armée. — (2 juillet 1812.) Ordre à Macdonald de porter son quartier général à Poneveje et de se mettre en communication avec Oudinot, 8. — (4 juillet.) But du mouvement prescrit au duc de Tarente, 16. — (6 juillet.) Marche de Macdonald dans la direction de Mitau; il devra menacer la gauche de l'ennemi pour faciliter les manœuvres de Davout sur Minsk, 23. — (9 juillet.) Ordre au duc de Tarente de favoriser un achat de chevaux commandé en Samogitie, 39. — Instructions générales à Macdonald : en faisant mine de vouloir passer la Dvina, il obligera l'armée russe de Dinabourg à se séparer en deux; puis, cette place une fois évacuée par l'ennemi, il franchira le fleuve et procédera au blocus de Riga; — le duc de Tarente aura soin, en occupant la Courlande, de ménager le plus possible les habitants et les ressources du pays; — les États provinciaux seront conservés, 39 à 41. — Opérations des divers corps de la Grande Armée, auxquelles correspondra celle de Macdonald contre Riga, 43. — (12 juillet.) Le duc de Tarente organisera le transport de l'équipage de siége nécessaire au siége de Riga; il établira des relais à partir de Tilsit, point où sera débarqué le matériel du génie et de l'artillerie venant de Danzig et de Kœnigsberg, 56. — (16 juillet.) Avis à Macdonald des positions occupées par l'armée; le duc de Tarente doit tenir en respect la garnison de Dinabourg; s'il y a une bataille, quel qu'en soit le résultat, il s'arrangera pour occuper la Dvina et menacer à la fois Dinabourg et Riga, 64, 65. — (19 juillet.) Ordre d'informer Macdonald de l'évacuation du camp de

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Mortier, duc de Trévise, maréchal commandant la jeune Garde. — (1er juillet 1812.) Position assignée au duc de Trévise, dans la poursuite organisée contre Bagration, 5. — (11 juillet.) Ordre à Mortier de quitter Vilna avec la jeune Garde; instructions relatives à sa marche, 49. — Le départ du duc de Trévise aura lieu dans la matinée du 12; il se dirigera, par Mikhalichki, sur Gloubokoïé, 51, 52. — (13 juillet.) Ordre à Mortier de ne point trop presser la marche de l'artillerie, pour éviter la perte des chevaux, 59. — (14 juillet.) Le duc de Trévise dirigera sur Loujki et sur les routes de Disna et de Vitebsk des reconnaissances de la cavalerie de Lefebvre, afin de prendre à l'ennemi le plus grand nombre de magasins possible, 60. — (21 juillet.) L'Empereur suppose que Mortier a pris position à Ouchatch, 84. — (12 août.) Ordre au duc de Trévise de se diriger sur le Dniepr, 153. — (24 août.) Il se portera sur-le-champ dans la direction de Dorogobouje, 170. — (30 août.) Ordre à Mortier de se rendre à Federoskoïé, 192. — (2 septembre.) Il prendra position dans les faubourgs de Ghjatsk, 199. — (19 septembre.) Ordre au duc de Trévise, gouverneur général de Moscou, relativement à un sujet russe, 221. — (23 septembre.) Ordre à Mortier d'expédier à l'avant-garde tout ce qui reste de la division Claparède à Moscou, 228. — (18 octobre.) Le duc de Trévise reste chargé de garder Moscou et d'occuper le Kremlin; instructions qui lui sont données à ce sujet, 272 à 275. — (20 octobre.) Ordre à Mortier de faire mettre le feu au Kremlin et de se porter à Mojaïsk, où il recevra des ordres ultérieurs, 278. — (21 octobre.) De Mojaïsk, le duc de Trévise se dirigera vers Vereya; ce maréchal devra faire tous ses efforts pour emmener des hôpitaux de Moscou le plus de malades possible, 280, 281. — Envoi d'un officier au duc de Trévise, 282. — (23 octobre.) Évacuation de Moscou par le duc de Trévise; il fait sauter le Kremlin, 289. — (30 octobre.) Marche de Mortier sur Velitchevo, dans le mouvement général de retraite, 293. — (9 novembre.) Ralliement du corps de Mortier à Smolensk, 306. — (25 novembre.) Arrivée prochaine du duc de Trévise à Bori-

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Moscou. — (14 septembre 1812.) Entrée de Napoléon à Moscou, 217. — (15 septembre.) Patrouilles à organiser dans les quatre parties de la ville pour y maintenir l'ordre; malfaiteurs russes à maintenir; — le Kremlin est remis à la vieille Garde; distribution de l'armée dans les divers quartiers de Moscou, 218. — (18 septembre.) Prises immenses faites à Moscou; évaluation par l'Empereur de la perte subie ainsi par la Russie, 219. — Ordre à Berthier de faire recueillir et nourrir près du Kremlin tous les Français habitant Moscou demeurés sans asile, 219. — Parti à tirer, pour la réserve d'artillerie de l'armée, du matériel existant à l'arsenal de Moscou; l'Empereur désirerait qu'on établît dans cette ville des moulins à poudre, 219. — (20 septembre.) Napoléon dénonce au czar la destruction presque totale de Moscou par les incendiaires de Rostopchine; cette conduite, contraire à l'humanité, a réduit plus d'un demi-million de familles à la mendicité, sans anéantir les ressources dont on voulait priver l'armée française; Napoléon refuse de croire qu'Alexandre ait autorisé ce système de guerre, 221, 222. — (21 septembre.) Immense provision de munitions de guerre trouvées à Moscou, 222. — (25 septembre.) Ordre d'organiser le service militaire de la place de Moscou; établissement des postes; désignation des corps entre lesquels ce service sera distribué, 230. — (1er octobre.) Ordres pour l'armement et les fortifications du Kremlin, 238. — (3 octobre.) L'Empereur visite les salles d'artifice de Moscou; il presse la confection des approvisionnements de cartouches destinés aux magasins du Kremlin, 240, 241. — (6 octobre.) Dispositions à prendre pour assurer l'approvisionnement de la ville de Moscou; il sera formé dans cette vue une compagnie russe, dite *de police*, et un magasin sera établi à la maison municipale, 248. — (8 octobre.) Prisons et couvents de Moscou à transformer en dépôts de subsistances; travaux de fortification à faire aux couvents de la ville et des environs; dispositions pour la défense de Moscou en l'absence de l'armée, 259. — (18 octobre.) Ordre aux divers corps de bivouaquer hors de la porte de Kalouga, pour quitter Moscou le lendemain; arrière-gardes à laisser provisoirement dans la ville, 271. — La garde de Moscou demeure confiée au duc de Trévise, qui devra pousser activement les travaux du Kremlin, occuper les points importants de la ville et y organiser des patrouilles; les malades et blessés seront réunis à l'hospice des Enfants trouvés; — une proclamation démentira les bruits d'évacuation et préviendra les habitants que l'armée se porte offensivement sur Kalouga; — un chef de bataillon d'artillerie est chargé de faire sauter le Kremlin au premier ordre; — Napoléon pouvant revenir à Moscou, on aura soin de n'y rien détruire en fait de munitions de guerre, 272 à 275. — (20 octobre.) Ordre au duc de Trévise de faire mettre, dans un délai de deux jours, le feu au Kremlin et à divers magasins et établissements de la ville; il fera également sauter tout le matériel qu'il ne pourra emporter, ralliera, autant que possible, les malades et les traînards, après quoi il se portera sur Mojaïsk, 278. — (23 octobre.) 26e *Bulletin de la Grande Armée* : exposé des raisons qui ont déterminé l'évacuation de Moscou; départ de cette ville du maréchal Mortier; destruction du Kremlin et des divers établissements militaires; état de Moscou après l'incendie; motifs d'humanité pour lesquels l'Empereur a refusé de détruire, par représailles, le reste de la ville, 288 à 290.

Moscou (Gouvernement de). — (21 septembre 1812.) L'Empereur se propose de répartir entre ses corps d'armée les différents districts du gouvernement de Moscou, 225.

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Moskova (Prince de la). V. Ney.
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Naples. V. Deux-Siciles.
Napoléon Ier, Empereur des Français, Roi d'Italie, Protecteur de la Confédération du Rhin, Médiateur de la Confédération helvétique. — (1er juillet 1812.) Séjour de l'Empereur à Vilna, 1. — (9 juillet.) Intention de Napoléon de se porter en personne sur Vitebsk, pour menacer à la fois Saint-Pétersbourg et Moscou, 43. — (11 juillet.) L'Empereur attend l'entrée de Davout à Borisof pour se diriger sur Gloubokoïé, 48. — Disposition prise pour l'établissement du quartier général de Napoléon à Gloubokoïé, 52. — (14 juillet.) L'Empereur annonce au vice-roi qu'il sera le 17 à Sventsiany, et la nuit suivante ou le lendemain à Gloubokoïé, 60. — Réponse de Napoléon aux députés de la Confédération de Pologne, 61, 62. — (15 juillet.) L'Empereur compte passer la Dvina entre Disna et Polotsk, 62. — (16 juillet.) Avis à Davout du départ de Napoléon pour Sventsiany, 66. — Dans le cas où les Russes attaqueraient le roi de Naples, Napoléon se dirigerait sur lui en personne; si l'attaque n'a point lieu, il continuera son mouvement de Sventsiany sur Gloubokoïé, 67. — L'Empereur informe Davout qu'il se portera, selon les circonstances, sur les avant-postes de Murat ou sur Gloubokoïé, 67. — (17 juillet.) Arrivée de Napoléon à Sventsiany; il en partira dans la nuit pour Gloubokoïé, 67. — (18 juillet.) Installation du quartier impérial à Gloubokoïé, 68. — (20 juillet.) Napoléon se prépare à gagner Kamen, 82. — (21 juillet.) Ordre au petit quartier général de quitter Gloubokoïé pour se rendre à Ouchatch, 84. — Napoléon compte être le 22 à Ouchatch, 85. — (22 juillet.) Il avise Maret de son départ pour Kamen, 87. — Même avis à Davout, 95. — Même avis à Eugène Napoléon, 96. — (23 juillet.) L'Empereur à Ouchatch; il compte être le lendemain avec toute l'armée à Biéchenkovitchi, 97. — (24 juillet.) Établissement du quartier impérial à Kamen, 98. — (25 juillet.) Position de Napoléon à Biéchenkovitchi, 99. — (29 juillet.) Son arrivée à Vitebsk, 102. — (7 août.) L'Empereur fait demander à son bibliothécaire Barbier quelques livres amusants pour se distraire à Vitebsk, 128. — (10 août.) Napoléon hésite sur la route qu'il prendra personnellement pour se porter sur Smolensk, 137. — Il compte être le 13 ou le 14 à Rossasna, 137, ou le 12, 142. — (12 août.) L'Empereur s'apprête à partir pour Babinovitchi, 152. — Il fait informer Oudinot que le quartier impérial sera le 20 à Doubrovna, 153. — (15 août.) Lettre datée du bivouac de Boyarintsova, près de Krasnoï, 156. — (18 août.) Entrée de Napoléon à Smolensk, 157. — (24 août.) Il se prépare à marcher en avant contre les Russes, qu'il croit disposés à livrer bataille, 170, 172, 176. — (26 août.) Napoléon à Dorogobouje, 179. — (27 août.) Son arrivée à Slavkovo, 184. — (29 août.) Lettre datée des hauteurs de Viazma, 187. — Établissement du quartier impérial à deux lieues

en arrière de Viazma, 188. — Entrée de Napoléon à Viazma, 189. — (1er septembre.) Halte à Velitchevo, 193. — Séjour à Ghjatsk, 196. — (6 septembre.) Ordre pour la bataille de la Moskova, dicté du camp impérial près de Mojaïsk, 206, 207. — (7 septembre.) Proclamation aux soldats, 207. — (9 septembre.) Séjour à Mojaïsk, 207. — (12 septembre.) L'Empereur se dispose à se rendre à l'avant-garde; ordre pour le départ du quartier général, 215, 216. — (13 septembre.) Passage de Napoléon à Borisovka, 217. — (14 septembre.) Entrée à Moscou, 218. — (30 septembre.) Ordre à Barbier d'envoyer plus exactement à l'Empereur les ouvrages nouveaux qui paraissent, 134. — (... octobre.) Notes de Napoléon sur les divers partis qui s'offrent à lui : inconvénients d'une marche rétrograde sur Smolensk et Varsovie; il répugne à l'Empereur de faire un mouvement qui aurait l'apparence d'une retraite; conditions que doit réunir le plan militaire à adopter; conception d'une manœuvre destinée à rapprocher l'armée de la Pologne, tout en la portant, par une marche offensive, sur Saint-Pétersbourg; pendant que le duc de Bellune se rendrait à Velikié-Louki, Napoléon marcherait personnellement, avec la Garde et le corps du vice-roi, sur Velije, 235 à 238. — (6 octobre.) Combinaison mixte imaginée par l'Empereur, 252 à 254. — (16 octobre.) Son intention est d'hiverner entre la Dvina et le Dniepr, en préparant ses moyens pour la campagne de Saint-Pétersbourg, 207, 208. — (18 octobre.) L'Empereur se dispose à quitter Moscou pendant la nuit, 270. — (20 octobre.) Passage de l'Empereur à Troïtskoïé, 277. — (21 octobre.) Séjour à Krasnoïé, 280. — Napoleon au château Soltikof, 283. — (22 octobre.) Il s'arrête au château d'Ignatovo, 283. — Son arrivée à Fominskiya, 284. — (23 octobre.) Installation du quartier impérial à Borovsk, 286. — (26 octobre.) Raisons qui déterminent l'Empereur à se replier sur Mojaïsk et Viazma, 292. — (28 octobre.) Il opère sa retraite par la traverse de Vereya, 293. — (1er novembre.) Passage à Viazma, 294. — (3 novembre.) Arrivée à Semlevo, puis à Slavkovo, 295. — (5 novembre.) Napoléon à Dorogobouje, 299. — (7 novembre.) Halte à Mikhaïlovka; prochaine arrivée à Smolensk, 302. — (9 novembre.) Installation du quartier impérial à Smolensk, 303. — (14 novembre.) L'Empereur fait ses dispositions pour quitter cette ville, 309. — (15 novembre.) Passage à Krasnoï, 310. — (18 novembre.) Napoléon à Doubrovna, 310. — (19 novembre.) Ses dispositions pour s'assurer de la ligne de la Berezina, 311. — (20 novembre.) Arrivée à Orcha, 311. — Halte au château de Baran, 312. — (22 novembre.) Passage à Tolotchine, 313. — (23 novembre.) Séjour à Bobr, 314. — (25 novembre.) Arrivée à Lochnitsa, dans le voisinage de la Berezina, 316. (27 novembre.) Napoléon à Stoudienka; passage de la Berezina par le quartier impérial, 318, 319. — Arrivée à Zanivki, 320. — (29 novembre.) L'Empereur songe à quitter l'armée pour se rendre à Paris, 322. — (30 novembre.) Passage à Plechtchennitsy, 323. — (2 décembre.) Napoléon à Selitché; envoi à Paris du comte de Montesquiou, chargé de dépêches pour l'Impératrice, 324. — (3 décembre.) Halte à Molodetchna, 325. — (5 décembre.) Passage à Benitsa; Napoléon, en partant pour Paris, ordonne qu'on fasse courir le bruit qu'il s'est porté sur Varsovie avec les Autrichiens et le 7e corps; le roi de Naples sera chargé du commandement, en son absence, 335, 336. — (11 décembre.) Passage de l'Empereur à Kutno, en Pologne, 339. — (14 décembre.) Son arrivée à Dresde, 340. — (18 décembre.) Napoléon à Paris, 341. — (20 décembre.) Réponse de l'Empereur à l'adresse du Sénat, 342. — Réponse à l'adresse du Conseil d'État, 343. — (20 janvier 1813.) Napoléon à Fontainebleau, 408. — Ordre au grand maréchal du palais de tout préparer pour le départ prochain des équipages et officiers de sa Maison, 413. — (29 janvier.) Retour de l'Empereur à Paris; ordre de réorganiser le service de sa Maison militaire à Berlin; départ prochain de Napoléon pour cette ville, 467. — (8 février.) Ordre au duc de Vicence de commencer à diriger sur Spandau la Maison militaire de

l'Empereur, 500. — (14 février.) Discours de l'Empereur à l'ouverture du Corps législatif, 520. — (23 février.) Ordre à Duroc de restreindre autant que possible les équipages de Napoléon pour la prochaine campagne; dispositions concernant la table, les cantines et les Pages, 539.

Napoléon-François-Charles-Joseph, Prince impérial, Roi de Rome. — (23 août 1812.) L'Empereur remercie la comtesse de Montesquiou de l'envoi d'un portrait du Roi de Rome, 166.

Napoléon-Louis, Prince royal de Hollande, grand-duc de Berg et de Clèves. — (29 juillet 1812.) Indisposition de ce prince; son rétablissement, 102.

Narbonne (Comte de), général de division, aide de camp de l'Empereur. — (5 décembre 1812.) Mission confiée au comte de Narbonne à Berlin, 337. — (26 décembre.) Ordre à ce général de revenir à Paris par Magdeburg et Cassel; il fera sentir au roi de Westphalie la nécessité de réorganiser son armée et de prendre toutes les mesures de défense, 352.

Nariskine, officier russe, 289.

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Ney, duc d'Elchingen, maréchal commandant le 3e corps de la Grande Armée. — (3 juillet 1812.) Le maréchal Ney à Maliaty, 13. — (4 juillet.) Ordre au duc d'Elchingen de ne continuer sa marche en avant que lorsque son artillerie l'aura rejoint; il organisera une police sévère contre les traînards, 16, 17. — (6 juillet.) Le maréchal Ney, rejoint par son artillerie, se portera à Taouroghiny pour se tenir à la disposition du roi de Naples, chargé de couper les Russes de Vidzy, 22, 23. — (9 juillet.) Mouvement sur Kozatchizna prescrit au duc d'Elchingen, 40. — (15 juillet.) L'Empereur suppose que Ney marche sur Braslaf, 63. — (23 juillet.) Ordre au duc d'Elchingen de hâter sa marche sur Biéchenkovitchi, 98. — (26 juillet.) Il laissera une division à Biéchenkovitchi et se dirigera vers Vitebsk, 101. — (29 juillet.) Le duc d'Elchingen à Liozno, 104. — Avis à Ney de la situation générale de l'armée; ce maréchal s'occupera d'approvisionner ses troupes et de leur assurer de bons cantonnements, 105. — (6 août.) Point où le 3e corps devrait passer le Borysthène, dans le cas où l'on marcherait sur Smolensk par la rive gauche, 127. — (10 août.) Ordre d'informer Ney des derniers événements militaires; dispositions à prendre en conséquence par le duc d'Elchingen, 140. — Marche du 3e corps vers le Dniepr, 141. — Intention de l'Empereur de charger Ney de faire l'avant-garde; ce maréchal passera le Dniepr à Liady, 145. — (19 août.) Prises faites par le duc d'Elchingen au combat de Krasnoï, 159. — (22 août.) Ordre à Ney de se porter sur Sloboda-Pnevo, afin d'être à portée de soutenir le roi de Naples et Davout, 165. — (23 août.) — Même ordre au duc d'Elchingen, 167. — (26 août.) Le corps de Ney s'avancera en seconde ligne, derrière Davout, sur Viazma, 180. — Position assignée au quartier général de Ney, 181. — (27 août.) Le corps du duc d'Elchingen est attendu à Slavkovo, où sa cavalerie devra occuper l'embranchement des deux routes, 184, 185. — (29 août.) Ordre à Ney de se porter sur la route de Viazma, 188. — (30 août.) Il suivra le roi de Naples à une distance de deux lieues, 192. — (3 septembre.) Nombre considérable de prisonniers faits parmi les fourrageurs du duc d'Elchingen; ordre à Ney en conséquence, 203, 204. — (9 septembre.) Le maréchal Ney est mandé avec son corps à Mojaïsk, 208. — (10 septembre.) Ordre pour la marche en avant du duc d'Elchingen, 212. — (12 septembre.) Ordre de faire rejoindre les troupes du 3e corps laissées sur le champ de bataille de la Moskova, 216. — (21 septembre.) Quartiers de Moscou que le duc d'Elchingen est chargé d'occuper; ce maréchal enverra des partis de cavalerie dans la direction de Bogorodsk, 225. — (... octobre.) Mouvement prescrit au 3e corps dans la grande manœuvre de retraite offensive combinée par l'Empereur à Moscou, 237, 238. — (6 octobre.) Ordre à Ney de réunir son corps à Bogorodsk; il laissera à Moscou son dépôt, ses convois et ses magasins de vivres, 249. — (18 octobre.) Le duc d'Elchingen se tiendra prêt à

quitter Moscou le lendemain, 271. — (20 octobre.) Ordre à Ney de prendre position, à l'avant-garde, sur la Motcha, 279. — (21 octobre.) Renforts adjoints au corps du duc d'Elchingen; ordre à ce maréchal de se tenir prêt à accomplir, par une marche forcée sur Fominskiya, le mouvement de traverse destiné à le porter de la vieille route de Kalouga sur la nouvelle; d'ici là il aura soin de battre le pays pour ramasser tous les bagages et les traîneurs, 281, 282. — (22 octobre.) Ordre à Ney de se maintenir encore une journée au débouché de Gorki, pour achever de couvrir, contre les Russes, le mouvement transversal de l'armée, 284. — (23 octobre.) Avis au duc d'Elchingen de l'entrée du vice-roi à Borovsk; confirmation des derniers ordres qu'il a reçus, 285. — (30 octobre.) Marche du corps de Ney de Ghjatsk sur Uelitchevo, dans le mouvement général de retraite, 293. — (3 novembre.) Ordre au duc d'Elchingen d'accélérer la retraite, dès qu'il aura pris le commandement de l'arrière-garde, 296. — (4 novembre.) Ce maréchal devra manœuvrer de manière à attirer les Russes sur la position choisie par l'Empereur, près de Dorogobouje, pour livrer une bataille, 298. — (9 novembre.) Ralliement du 3e corps à Smolensk, 306. — (14 novembre.) Le duc d'Elchingen reste chargé de faire l'arrière-garde; délai accordé à ce maréchal pour quitter Smolensk et en faire sauter les remparts, 309. — (20 novembre.) Inquiétude de l'Empereur au sujet de Ney. — Ce maréchal rejoint l'armée, 312. — (21 novembre.) Artillerie mise à la disposition du duc d'Elchingen; le 3e corps se ralliera sur les hauteurs de Baran, 312. — Ordre à Davout de faire connaître l'heure à laquelle Ney pourra quitter Orcha, 313. — (25 novembre.) Dispositions prescrites au duc d'Elchingen en vue du passage prochain de la Berezina par le 3e corps, 318. — (27 novembre.) Ordre à Ney de franchir la rivière, 319. — (30 décembre.) Réorganisation provisoire du 3e corps de la Grande Armée; adjonction à ce corps de la légion de la Vistule, 359. — (18 janvier 1813.) Explications au roi Jérôme sur le mouvement par lequel Ney, resté en arrière de trois jours, après sa sortie de Smolensk, parvint à rallier l'armée; faussetés contenues dans les bulletins russes au sujet des pertes subies par ce maréchal, 404. — Cantonnement du 3e corps sur la Vistule, 405. — (23 janvier.) Ordre au vice-roi d'utiliser le duc d'Elchingen dans la réorganisation de la Grande Armée, 430. — Ce maréchal commandera un corps composé des vingt-huit 1ers bataillons qui resteront à la Grande Armée, 431. — (24 janvier.) Ordre de former des divisions Grenier et Lagrange un corps qui sera sous les ordres du duc d'Elchingen, 437 à 440. — (25 janvier.) Réduction provisoire du 3e corps à une division, qui sera cantonnée à Spandau, pour y être ensuite recomposée par l'adjonction de nouveaux bataillons, 441 à 443. — (26 janvier.) Ordre à Ney de concentrer davantage la division Grenier et d'activer l'organisation du 11e corps à Posen, 457. — (27 janvier.) Le 11e corps, qui conservera son numéro ou prendra le titre d'avant-garde, sera formé en trois divisions, 461 à 465. — Quant au 3e corps, il sera réuni au 2e, sous les ordres d'Oudinot, 461, 463. V. Oudinot. — (27 janvier.) Nouveaux ordres relatifs au dédoublement de la division Grenier; nécessité de la laisser reposer, 461, 465. — (29 janvier.) Retour de Ney à Paris; son commandement sera transmis à Gouvion Saint-Cyr, 467. — Insistance de Napoléon pour qu'on ménage soigneusement la division Grenier, 468. — (6 février.) Ordre concernant le régiment italien de cette division, 490. — (17 février.) Le maréchal Ney, prince de la Moskova, est chargé de commander le 1er corps d'observation du Rhin, 529. — V. Corps d'observation du Rhin (1er).

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Varsovie (Grand-duché de). — (7 juillet 1812.) Le général Reynier demeure chargé de couvrir Varsovie, 27. — (11 juillet.) Le Grand-Duché continuant d'être menacé par deux divisions russes restées en Volhynie, Reynier arrêtera sa marche vers Nesvije et gardera jusqu'à nouvel ordre les débouchés de Pinsk; il renverra en outre à Praga le régiment destiné pour la garnison de cette place, 50, 51. — (14 juillet.) Réponse de l'Empereur aux députés de la Confédération de Pologne; il applaudit au vote de l'assemblée de Varsovie; plein d'affection et d'estime pour la nation polonaise, il l'a déjà reconstituée partiellement, et il est prêt à seconder ses résolutions en vue d'une complète résurrection, mais ce grand résultat dépend surtout de l'unanimité d'efforts des populations depuis le Dniester jusqu'à la mer; — la Pologne autrichienne devra toutefois, dans ce moment, rester en dehors de toute excitation, car ces provinces ont été garanties par Napoléon à l'Empereur d'Autriche, 61, 62. — (18 juillet.) Proclamation faite par la Confédération générale du royaume de Pologne aux Polonais retenus au service civil ou militaire de la Russie; appel au patriotisme et aux armes; — Napoléon ordonne de répandre cette proclamation dans toutes les parties de la Lithuanie où, d'après les rapports du général Colbert, les dispositions des habitants semblent tièdes; des exemplaires en seront envoyés aux chefs de corps de l'armée, 68, 69. — (20 juillet.) Ordre de faire sans délai les levées pour l'organisation des régiments polonais; nécessité de placer dans la commission du

gouvernement les propriétaires influents du pays, et d'envoyer une adresse aux provinces de Mohilef, de Vitebsk et de Polotsk; — l'Empereur désirerait la formation de bataillons de garde-chasse dans les marais de Pinsk, sur le Borysthène et sur la Dvina, 77, 78. — Un corps d'observation sera formé à Nesvije pour la défense du Grand-Duché, 81. — (22 juillet.) Mesures à prendre pour provoquer une insurrection polonaise en Volhynie; le gouvernement de la Confédération organisera promptement ses forces et enverra à Constantinople une ambassade chargée de demander pour la Pologne la garantie de la Turquie; — ordre de diminuer la garnison de Zamosc, et d'armer de fusils les gardes nationales destinées à protéger les frontières contre les Cosaques, 87, 88. — Instructions concernant la formation des nouveaux régiments polonais; entraves que pourraient apporter au mouvement général en Pologne la négligence et l'esprit de critique du général Jomini; observations de l'Empereur à ce sujet, 89, 90. — Napoléon laisse Reynier libre d'entrer dans la Volhynie, dès qu'il jugera le moment favorable; si l'on pouvait, avec le concours de commissaires polonais, déterminer une insurrection dans cette province, la sûreté du Grand-Duché n'en serait que mieux garantie, 94. — (31 juillet.) Avis à Maret que le Grand-Duché se trouve dégagé par suite d'un mouvement de Reynier du côté de Kobrine; nécessité d'envoyer la garnison de Zamosc en colonne mobile sur la frontière de Volhynie, 109. — (1er août.) Ordre à Maret de presser l'organisation des gardes nationales dans le Grand-Duché, et de renforcer la colonne mobile tirée de Zamosc, 112. — (11 septembre.) Ordre de diriger sur Varsovie divers corps demeurés jusqu'ici sur les derrières extrêmes de l'armée, 214. — (23 septembre.) Nécessité de faire des levées dans le Grand-Duché pour recruter les régiments polonais, 226. — (29 septembre.) L'Empereur insiste pour qu'on stimule à ce sujet le zèle de la petite noblesse polonaise et celui du gouvernement de Varsovie, 234. — (6 octobre.) Ordre dans le même sens, 250. — (8 octobre.) Ordre au général Durutte de se rendre sans délai à Varsovie pour y organiser sa division, destinée à la défense du Grand-Duché; instructions touchant cette organisation, 257. — (3 décembre.) Plaintes de l'Empereur sur la tiédeur des nobles du Grand-Duché et sur le peu d'appui qu'ils lui ont prêté pendant la campagne de Moscou, 332. — (4 décembre.) Comparaison entre l'activité déployée en faveur de la Russie par les Polonais de la Podolie, de l'Ukraine et de la Volhynie, et l'inaction absolue montrée, malgré l'espérance et les efforts de Napoléon, par la nouvelle confédération de Varsovie; — marche prochaine vers Olitta des débris de l'armée du Grand-Duché, 333, 334. — (5 décembre.) Ordre à Lauriston de se rendre dans le Grand-Duché; il est chargé d'y lever la confédération de toute la noblesse et d'inspecter la place de Modlin, 338. — (11 décembre.) Nouveaux ordres pour l'armement immédiat du Grand-Duché, 339. — (7 janvier 1813.) Délégation de pouvoirs extraordinaires à Poniatowski, chargé de faire en Pologne tous les préparatifs militaires d'urgence; fonds mis, dans cette vue, à la disposition du Grand-Duché, 372. — Position assignée entre Posen et Varsovie aux régiments de Lithuanie et à la légion de la Vistule, 372. — (11 janvier.) Ordre de diriger sur Posen les 2,000 cavaliers remontés à Varsovie, 382. — (15 janvier.) Secours en argent accordés aux réfugiés lithuaniens et polonais; subsides déjà donnés au Grand-Duché; fonds nouveaux qui lui sont réservés, 395. — (22 janvier.) Ordre de former, dans la réorganisation de la Grande Armée, un corps spécial polonais, composé des régiments polonais du duc de Bellune, des régiments de la Vistule et des régiments lithuaniens, 420. — Avis au roi de Saxe des fonds mis à la disposition du Grand-Duché, 423. — (24 janvier.) Ordre à Schwarzenberg et à Reynier de défendre Varsovie le plus longtemps possible, 439. — (26 janvier.) Importance que l'Empereur attache à la conservation de Varsovie; il ignore encore si les Russes marcheront sur cette ville, 455. — Farines à réunir

à Modlin, 457. — (27 janvier.) Nouveaux ordres relatifs à l'évacuation éventuelle de Varsovie par Schwarzenberg, 464. — V. LITHUANIE.

VEDEL, général de division, à la Grande Armée. — (9 juillet 1812.) Il est chargé de la surveillance en chef de la section de la route militaire de la Grande Armée traversant les districts de Kalwarya, Maryampol, Lomza, etc., 37.

VÉLITES DE TOSCANE, 214.

VÉLITES ITALIENS, 214.

VENISE. V. ITALIE.

VIAZMA, ville de Russie. V. GRANDE ARMÉE (*Opérations offensives de la*).

VICTOR PERRIN, duc de Bellune, maréchal commandant le 9e corps de la Grande Armée. — (4 juillet 1812.) Ordre à Victor de quitter Berlin et de porter son quartier général à Marienburg; il aura pour instruction générale de secourir, au besoin, les places de Stettin, Danzig et Kœnigsberg, 14, 15. — (12 juillet.) Le duc de Bellune sera informé du départ de la division Daendels de Danzig pour Labiau, 58. — (22 juillet.) Marche de Victor et du 9e corps sur Tilsit, 87. — Prochaine arrivée du duc de Bellune à Marienburg; il se portera au besoin sur le grand-duché de Varsovie, pour soutenir le général Reynier, 90. — Ordre au maréchal Victor de continuer son mouvement sur Tilsit; recommandations concernant son infanterie et sa cavalerie, 90. — Mesures à prendre pour que le corps du duc de Bellune puisse se réunir le plus tôt possible à Tilsit, 93. — (7 août.) Le maréchal informera l'Empereur de l'époque où les divers bataillons arriveront à Tilsit, 129. — (23 août.) Ordre au duc de Bellune de se porter sur Kovno, 167. — (24 août.) Le même ordre lui sera transmis par le duc de Bassano, 176. — (26 août.) Le rôle militaire de Victor est de prendre position entre le Dniepr et la Dvina, de façon à couvrir les places et à maintenir les communications sur les derrières de la Grande Armée, 181. — Arrivée du duc de Bellune à Kovno; satisfaction de l'Empereur, rassuré par là sur le maintien de ses communications, 183. — (1er septembre.) Napoléon désire que le corps du maréchal Victor lui serve de réserve, 195. — (2 septembre.) Mouvement du duc de Bellune de Vilna sur Minsk, 201. — (11 septembre.) Ordre à ce maréchal de diriger sur Smolensk, et de là sur Moscou, les troupes restées sur les derrières de l'armée; lui-même tiendra son corps réuni et prêt à fournir au fur et à mesure les renforts nécessaires, 213. — (... octobre.) Manœuvre réservée au duc de Bellune dans la marche offensive conçue par Napoléon à Moscou : ce maréchal devrait se porter, avec une force de 40,000 hommes, de Smolensk sur Velikié-Louki, d'où il menacerait Novgorod et Saint-Pétersbourg, 237, 238. — (6 octobre.) Ordre au maréchal Victor de cantonner son corps de Smolensk à Orcha, et d'entretenir une correspondance active avec les différents points de la Lithuanie, province qui est tout entière sous son commandement; les mouvements des Russes décideront si le duc de Bellune devra se porter sur Kalouga par Yelnia, ou si son corps restera à Smolensk comme une réserve générale prête à secourir, selon l'événement, soit le prince Schwarzenberg et Minsk, soit Gouvion Saint-Cyr et Vilna, 252 à 254. — Instructions touchant la réorganisation du 9e corps, 254, 255. — (14 octobre.) Ordre au duc de Bellune d'arrêter désormais à Smolensk tout convoi d'artillerie en route vers Moscou, 264. — (17 octobre.) Le maréchal Victor commencera son mouvement sur Yelnia par l'envoi sur cette ville d'une division accompagnée d'une forte artillerie et de transports militaires, 269, 270. — (24 octobre.) Ordre au duc de Bellune, si rien ne l'arrête à Smolensk, de se mettre en marche vers Yelnia, pour opérer de là sa jonction avec l'armée sur Kalouga, 290. — (26 octobre.) Contre-ordre donné au mouvement de Victor sur Yelnia; ce maréchal devra se replier sur Dorogobouje, 292. — (3 novembre.) Avis au duc de Bellune de la retraite de l'armée; l'Empereur compte que Victor aura repoussé Wittgenstein, qu'il manœuvrera pour se lier à l'armée, et qu'on recevra de ses nouvelles à Dorogobouje, 295, 296. — (7 novembre.) Ordre au duc de Bellune de repousser les Russes au delà de la Dvina et de reprendre Polotsk; urgence de ce mouvement, que Napoléon considère comme

décisif pour le salut de l'armée, 302. — (19 novembre.) Napoléon remet au maréchal Victor le soin de barrer à Wittgenstein le chemin de la Berezina, et de masquer le mouvement transversal d'Oudinot sur Borisof, 311. — (21 novembre.) Avis au duc de Bellune de la jonction de Ney avec l'armée, 313. — (23 novembre.) Ordre à Victor de couper la route de Lepel et d'empêcher à toute force Wittgenstein d'inquiéter le duc de Reggio dans sa manœuvre, 314. — (25 novembre.) Combat livré aux Russes par Victor près de Barany; — ce maréchal s'approche de la Berezina, 317. — (27 novembre.) Ordre à Victor de soutenir au besoin le duc de Reggio contre les Russes, 318, 319. — Le duc de Bellune est chargé de couvrir les ponts de la Berezina et la ville de Stoudienka, 320. — (30 novembre.) L'Empereur attribue à l'inaction du maréchal Victor l'insuccès du plan conçu pour faire hiverner l'armée sur Smolensk, 323. — (30 décembre.) Projet de Napoléon de supprimer le 9e corps de la Grande Armée, 359. — (18 janvier 1813.) Cantonnement du 9e corps sur la Vistule, 405. — V. BULLETIN DE LA GRANDE ARMÉE (29e), GRANDE ARMÉE (*Derrières de la*).

VIDZY. V. GRANDE ARMÉE (*Opérations offensives de la*).

VIGNOLLE (Comte DE), général de division, à la Grande Armée, 499.

VILIVA, rivière de Russie. V. GÉNIE, GRANDE ARMÉE (*Opérations offensives de la*), PONTONNIERS.

VILNA, ville de Lithuanie. — (1er juillet 1812.) L'Empereur à Vilna, 1. — (2 juillet.) Ordre pour la construction de fours dans cette ville, 7. — (4 juillet.) Arrivée du 4e corps à Vilna, 14. — (7 juillet.) La Garde quittera Vilna le 9 juillet, 25. — Ordre au quartier général de commencer à se mettre en marche de Vilna sur Sventsiany et Vidzy, 27. — Le dépôt du 1er corps sera établi à Vilna, 28. — (8 juillet.) Hogendorp se rendra de Kœnigsberg à Vilna, où il prendra le gouvernement de toute la Lithuanie, 31. — (10 juillet.) Forces mises à la disposition du gouverneur de Vilna; mesures prises pour la défense du pont du Niemen; organisation des services de l'artillerie, du génie et de l'administration militaire; gendarmerie; la police des districts sera faite par onze commandants; fonctions dévolues à ces commandants; — colonnes mobiles chargées de maintenir l'ordre et la sûreté sur la ligne de communication de l'armée; — commission prévôtale, 44 à 46. — (12 juillet.) Ordre d'achever les ponts en construction à Vilna, et de continuer les travaux du camp retranché; instructions relatives aux diverses fortifications à établir; une demi-escouade d'artilleurs, munis d'une batterie, sera chargée de surveiller la plaine des hauteurs de l'arsenal, 53 à 55. — Les casernes et les couvents serviront de logement aux bataillons de marche du 3e corps chargés de tenir garnison à Vilna; recommandations concernant les soins à donner aux hommes isolés, qui seront tous arrêtés dans cette ville, 55, 56. — Ordre de réunir à Vilna une provision d'armes destinée à l'insurrection polonaise, 58. — Tout le personnel de l'équipage de pont quittera Vilna le 13 juillet, 58. — (20 juillet.) Ordre au grand quartier général de quitter Vilna, avec les bataillons de marche et les convois d'approvisionnement, 79, 80. — (22 juillet.) Réserve de munitions de guerre préparée à Vilna; ordre de la transporter à Gloubokoïé, 95. — (29 juillet.) Ordre à Maret d'accélérer la reconstruction du pont brûlé à Vilna, 104. — (31 juillet.) Nécessité de réorganiser l'hôpital de Vilna, 109. — (24 août.) Ordres, sur ce sujet, au duc de Bassano, 175. — (21 septembre.) Napoléon s'informe de la quantité de matériel d'artillerie resté dans l'arsenal de Vilna, 222. — (6 octobre.) Dispositions prises pour couvrir, au besoin, Vilna contre une marche offensive des Russes, 252, 253. — (29-30 novembre.) Instances de l'Empereur afin que l'armée, en retraite sur Vilna, y trouve des approvisionnements suffisants pour empêcher le pillage de cette ville par la masse indisciplinée des traînards, 322. — (2 décembre.) Ordre de faire publier dans les journaux de Vilna l'heureux résultat, pour l'armée française, de la bataille de la Berezina, 324. — (3 décembre.) Départ des bagages de l'armée pour Vilna; ordre au gouverneur de

rester dans cette ville, où l'Empereur désire trouver des vivres et laisser reposer l'armée pendant quelques jours; — question concernant les travaux du camp retranché de Vilna, 330. — (4 décembre.) Nécessité de faire commencer l'évacuation de Vilna, si cette place n'offre pas des subsistances en quantité suffisante pour nourrir l'armée et prévenir le pillage de la ville, 334, 335. — (5 décembre.) Ordre de débarrasser Vilna par un premier mouvement d'évacuation sur Kœnigsberg et Varsovie, 336. — V. Lithuanie.

Vincennes (Château fort de), 378.

Vistule (Légion de la), 30, 31, 88, 89, 143, 185, 194, 199, 200, 225, 251, 359, 372, 373, 420.

Vitebsk, ville de Russie (sur la Dvina). — (29 juillet 1812.) Installation à Vitebsk du quartier impérial, 102. — (4 août.) Grains et seigle à emmagasiner à Vitebsk; toutes les farines et les moulins de la ville seront requis pour les moutures; trente-deux fours seront construits, et l'on fera, pour le service des hôpitaux, des réquisitions dans toutes les boutiques fermées et dans les caves des couvents, 121, 122. — (9 août.) Approvisionnement de sel à Vitebsk; opération de vente et de transport à combiner à ce sujet, 136. — (10 août.) Travaux de fortification à faire pour mettre en état de défense les ponts établis sur la Dvina ainsi que divers autres points de la ville, 139. — Ordre au général Guyon d'occuper le faubourg de la rive droite et d'éclairer de là, au moyen de reconnaissances, tout le pays dans la direction de Smolensk; nécessité de placer des postes au pont de la Dvina; forces dont se composera la garnison qui sera laissée dans Vitebsk, 142, 143. — (20 août.) Autres mesures militaires à prendre pour la défense de Vitebsk; positions assignées dans cette vue aux généraux Pino et Pajol, 162. — (22 août.) Nouveaux ordres dans le même sens, 166. — (24 août.) Ordre aux détachements restés à Vitebsk de se porter sur Smolensk; correspondance à établir entre les gouverneurs de ces deux places, 170, 171. — (11 septembre.) Intention de l'Empereur de dégarnir complétement de troupes la ville de Vitebsk, 213. — (23 septembre.) Levées nationales à faire dans le gouvernement de Vitebsk, 226. — (24 septembre.) Ordres sur le même sujet, 228.

Volhynie, province russe. V. Reynier, Schwarzenberg, Varsovie (Grand-duché de).

Volontaires. — (9 janvier 1813.) Dons patriotiques en hommes et en chevaux votés par les cantons de France, 379. — (18 janvier.) Régiment de 500 chasseurs offert à Napoléon par la ville de Paris, 398. — (22 janvier.) Avis au roi de Saxe des ressources fournies à l'Empereur par les dons volontaires du pays, 422. — (23 janvier.) Ordre de donner à la Garde les chevaux offerts par le Sénat et le Conseil d'État, et, en général, par toutes les corporations de Paris; les dons de la plupart des départements dépassent du double et du triple les prévisions de Napoléon, 427. — (27 janvier.) Instructions au ministre de l'intérieur au sujet des offres de volontaires qui pourraient être faites, à l'imitation de la France, par les départements de Rome et des Bouches-de-l'Elbe; précautions à prendre pour éviter toute apparence de pression en cette circonstance, 460. — (29 janvier.) Offre de chevaux faite par Milan; élan patriotique de tout le royaume d'Italie, 468.

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Waltersdorf (Comte de), ministre plénipotentiaire de Danemark près l'Empereur, 102.

Walther (Comte), général de division, à la Grande Armée, 382, 437, 492.

Wattier, général de division, à la Grande Armée, 484.

Wellington (Duc de), généralissime des forces anglaises dans la péninsule espagnole. V. Espagne (*Opérations en*).

Wesel. — (9 février 1813.) Envoi à Wesel d'un officier chargé de vérifier la remise des dons de chevaux offerts par le pays et la situation générale de la place, 507. — (26 février.) Nécessité

d'approvisionner la place de Wesel, 546.

Westphalie (Royaume de). — (2 novembre 1812.) Observation de l'Empereur sur la transformation d'un temple protestant en église catholique à Cassel; ordre au ministre de France près du roi Jérôme de désapprouver cette mesure, 294. — (11 novembre.) Disposition ayant pour but de favoriser le recrutement du contingent westphalien, 307. — (26 décembre.) Mission confiée au comte de Narbonne à Cassel; il sondera les dispositions des esprits et pressera le roi de Westphalie de réorganiser son armée et d'assurer la défense de Magdeburg, 352. — (7 janvier 1813.) Instances de l'Empereur en vue d'une prompte reconstitution de l'armée westphalienne, 371. — (9 janvier.) Mesures prises pour l'approvisionnement de Magdeburg, 379. — (18 janvier.) Napoléon expose au roi de Westphalie l'état véritable des choses, et le met en garde contre les faux rapports des bulletins russes sur les événements et les résultats de la campagne de Moscou; grâce aux vastes préparatifs militaires faits par l'Empereur depuis son retour à Paris, il espérait n'avoir point à demander de nouveaux sacrifices aux princes de la Confédération du Rhin, mais la trahison du général York et les intrigues du baron de Stein en Allemagne ont changé la situation; la France garantit toujours l'intégrité du royaume de Westphalie, mais il importe que le roi Jérôme réponde aux menées des agitateurs en concourant de tous ses efforts à soutenir la cause de Napoléon, à laquelle le lient ses vrais intérêts, et en rétablissant son contingent tel qu'il était à l'ouverture de la dernière campagne, 402 à 408. — (19 janvier.) L'approvisionnement de Magdeburg sera fourni par le roi de Westphalie, 408. — (20 janvier.) Ordre à Lauriston de se rendre à Cassel pour y vérifier l'organisation des troupes formées par le roi Jérôme et destinées à constituer la 5e division du corps d'observation de l'Elbe, 412. — (23 janvier.) Évaluation des dettes réciproques de la Westphalie et de la France; remboursement prochain de la différence qui existe en faveur de la Westphalie, 432. — (24 janvier.) Instructions au roi Jérôme sur les approvisionnements de siége de Magdeburg; une moitié des frais sera au compte de la Westphalie et l'autre au compte de la France, 440. — (27 janvier.) Effectif auquel sera porté le corps westphalien, 463. — (26 février.) Nécessité de le concentrer sur Havelberg pour défendre l'Elbe contre l'avant-garde des Russes, 548. — V. Jérôme Napoléon.

Westphaliennes (Troupes), 31, 92, 100, 145, 167, 168, 177, 181, 183, 187, 201, 208, 213, 214, 223, 225, 237, 243, 251, 253, 254, 256, 280, 296, 359, 364, 390, 405, 412, 419, 463, 517. — V. Junot.

Winzingerode (Comte de), 289.

Wittenburg, colonel russe prisonnier, 534.

Wittgenstein (Prince), lieutenant général russe. — (6 juillet 1812.) Mouvement rétrograde de Wittgenstein sur Riga, 23. — (23 juillet.) Nouvelles contradictoires au sujet de la position occupée par le corps de Wittgenstein; le maréchal Oudinot est chargé de marcher contre lui, 97. — Probabilité d'un mouvement accéléré de Wittgenstein sur Saint-Pétersbourg, 98. — (26 juillet.) Ordre au duc de Reggio de contenir Wittgenstein sur la Dvina; — manœuvre à faire pour rejeter le général russe sur la route de Saint-Pétersbourg; faiblesse numérique du corps dont il dispose, 102. — (1er août.) Avis à Oudinot de la position probable de Wittgenstein, 114. — (3 août.) Ordre à Saint-Cyr de se porter avec son corps à Polotsk pour y agir contre Wittgenstein, sous les ordres du duc de Reggio, 119. — (5 août.) Position du corps de Wittgenstein entre Polotsk et Saint-Pétersbourg, 122. — (7 août.) État de situation du corps de Wittgenstein dressé par le duc de Reggio; observations de l'Empereur sur les erreurs qu'il contient; chiffre probable auquel ce corps doit être évalué, 129. — (9 août.) Blessure reçue par Wittgenstein au combat de la Drissa; — le duc de Bassano se renseignera soigneusement sur le corps que commande ce général, 134. — (12 août.) Mouvement présumé de Wittgenstein dans la direction de Velige; ordre à Oudinot de couvrir Vitebsk con-

tre une attaque de ce général, 153. — (19 août.) Observation de l'Empereur sur l'idée erronée que se fait le duc de Reggio des forces de Wittgenstein; moyen généralement employé par les Russes pour en imposer sur leur nombre et leurs mouvements; Napoléon entend qu'Oudinot reprenne résolûment l'offensive contre l'ennemi, 158. — (24 août.) Composition du corps de Wittgenstein d'après les bulletins russes, 172. — (26 août.) Le général Gouvion Saint-Cyr est chargé de tenir en échec Wittgenstein, 181, 182. — (10 septembre.) L'Empereur suppose que Wittgenstein a quitté la Drissa pour se porter, entre Saint-Pétersbourg et Moscou, sur le flanc de la Grande Armée; ordre à Saint-Cyr de le poursuivre, 209. — En concertant leurs opérations, Macdonald et Gouvion Saint-Cyr pourraient tourner et culbuter le corps de Wittgenstein, 212. — (... octobre.) L'Empereur compte sur son plan de retraite offensive conçu à Moscou pour déterminer la retraite de Wittgenstein, 238. — (6 octobre.) Renforts reçus par Wittgenstein, 252. — (7 novembre.) Ordre au duc de Bellune de couvrir la retraite de l'armée sur Smolensk, en repoussant vivement Wittgenstein au delà de la Dwina, 302. — (19 novembre.) Manœuvres prescrites au maréchal Victor afin de dérober à Wittgenstein la marche d'Oudinot sur Borisof et de contenir les Russes en leur faisant craindre un mouvement offensif de Napoléon, 311. — (23 novembre.) Ordre au duc de Bellune de barrer à Wittgenstein la route de Lepel, 314. — (27 novembre.) Précautions prises dans l'hypothèse d'un mouvement offensif de Wittgenstein sur la Berezina, 319. — (29-30 novembre.) Résultats du combat livré à Wittgenstein sur les bords de la Berezina, 322 à 324. — (3 décembre.) 29e *Bulletin de la Grande Armée :* exposé des mouvements faits par l'armée russe de Wittgenstein et des pertes essuyées par elle au bord de la Berezina, 325 à 329.

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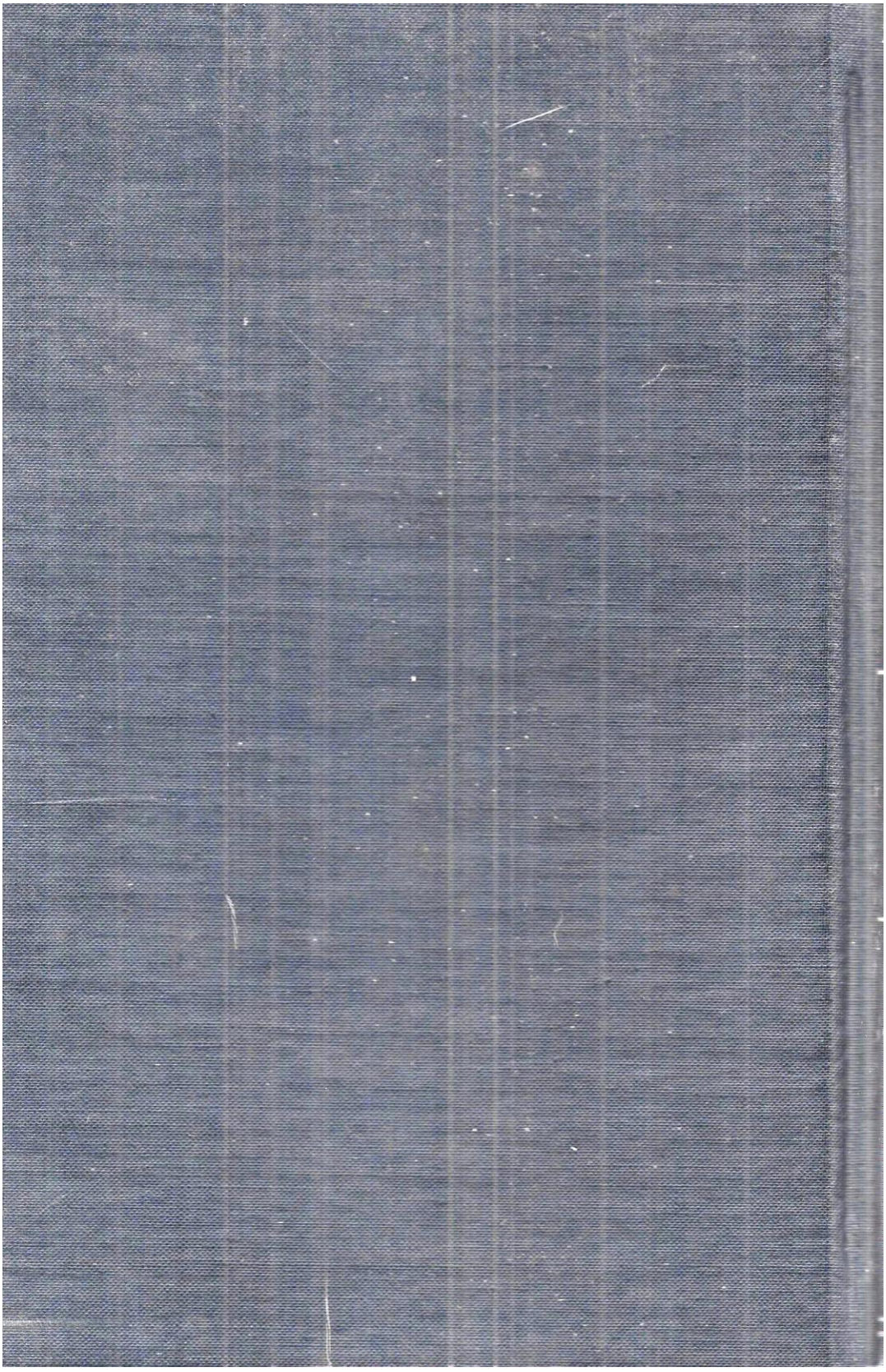
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